# Wyoming Residents' Attitudes Toward and Opinions on Wolf Management in Wyoming

Conducted for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department by Responsive Management

January 2003

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This study was conducted on behalf of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) to assess Wyoming residents' opinions on wolves and wolf management in Wyoming. It is possible that, soon, Wyoming's wolves could be removed from protection under the Endangered Species Act. As part of the process to prepare for the removal of Wyoming's wolves from Federal protection, the state is developing a wolf management plan. The purpose of this study was to collect public input on proposed wolf management issues as part of Wyoming's draft wolf management plan.

- ➤ Less than a third of respondents, including those who live in affected counties, had seen a wolf in Wyoming during the past five years.
  - Twenty-three percent of respondents overall had seen a wolf during the past five years. Forty percent of respondents who live in affected counties had seen a wolf during the past five years.
- ➤ Half (50%) of respondents overall either strongly or moderately agreed that the wolf population is a benefit to Wyoming.
- A difference in agreement and disagreement about the benefit of wolves in Wyoming was evident between those who live in affected counties and those who do not.

  A majority (52%) of respondents in counties not affected by wolves strongly or moderately agreed wolves are a benefit to Wyoming, while somewhat less than a majority (40%) of respondents who live in affected counties agreed that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming. Of those respondents who agreed that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming, most felt wolves are a benefit to Wyoming for naturalistic reasons that reflect the opinion that wolves are a part of the ecosystem.
- > Respondents overall were nearly equally divided on whether they agreed or disagreed that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming.
  - Forty-four percent of respondents overall disagreed that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming, while 42% of respondents overall agreed the wolf population is harmful to

Wyoming. A difference in agreement and disagreement about whether the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming was evident between those who live in affected counties and those who do not. Respondents living in affected counties were more inclined to agree that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming compared to respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves.

- ➤ Half (50%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately agreed that 250 wolves in Wyoming is an acceptable population level; however, a sizably lower percentage of respondents who live within affected counties strongly or moderately agreed that this is an acceptable population level (37%).
- ➤ A majority (54%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately agreed that the 2001 level of wolf predation was acceptable. Again, however, a difference between respondents in affected counties and respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves was apparent, with 46% of respondents who live in affected counties and 51% of respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves having agreed that the 2001 level of wolf predation was acceptable.
- ➤ A majority (78%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately supported efforts to return the management responsibility for Wyoming's wolves to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission (WGFC) and the WGFD.
  - Most respondents overall (55%) strongly supported returning wolf responsibility to the WGFC and the WGFD.
- > Differences in opinion about who should have management responsibilities for wolves in Wyoming appeared to be based on whom respondents believed has better resources and experience to manage wolves, either the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the WGFC and WGFD.
  - Of those respondents who supported returning management responsibilities to the WGFC and the WGFD, most expressed confidence in having the State of Wyoming manage wolves because they feel the state has better resources and experience than does the USFWS, and

they believed the WGFD better understands Wyoming residents' needs. Of those respondents who opposed returning management responsibility to the WGFC and the WGFD, most expressed confidence in the USFWS as better able to manage wolves because they felt the USFWS has better resources and experience with wolves than does the WGFD.

- ➤ A majority (74%) of respondents overall were very or somewhat confident in the WGFD's ability to successfully manage wolves in Wyoming once the Federal protections have been removed.
- ➤ Fifty-nine percent of respondents overall strongly or moderately supported creating a dual classification for wolves in Wyoming; 30% of respondents overall opposed a dual classification for wolves.
- ➤ Half (50%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately supported dividing wolf management responsibilities between the WGFD and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA).

Two reasons were given by high percentages of respondents for supporting a plan that divided wolf management responsibilities. The first reason given by half (50%) of those respondents who supported dividing wolf management responsibilities is that the plan "would provide a balance in management of wolves." The second most popular reason given by those who supported the plan was that the plan "would represent ranchers' wants and needs" (43%). Reasons for opposition to a plan that divided wolf management responsibilities pertained to the difference in the two agencies with whom respondents believed management responsibilities should be given and logistical concerns. Thirty-five percent of respondents who opposed a divided management plan did so because they felt that "the WGFD and the WDA have different interests." Thirty-percent of respondents who opposed a divided management plan felt that "the WGFD should have full management responsibilities." Just over a quarter (26%) of respondents who opposed the plan felt that a divided wolf management plan "would be too complicated."

➤ Over three-quarters (78%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately supported a management plan in which wolves were maintained within the national parks and designated wilderness areas in northwest Wyoming, but where wolves were discouraged from expanding their ranges to other parts of the state.

Over two-thirds (69%) of respondents who supported a plan that would restrict wolf expansion to national parks and wilderness areas in northwest Wyoming did so because they felt "it would minimize human-wolf conflicts."

In regard to removing wolves under various scenarios, the strongest support for removing wolves was when a wolf or wolf pack had killed livestock or pets, and the least support (although still over two-thirds of respondents supported removal) was for proactively removing a wolf that had not yet become a problem.

From most support to least support, these are the following scenarios for removing a wolf:

- Removing a wolf or wolf pack that had killed livestock or pets (87% support).
- Removing the wolves from natural winter ranges if it was determined they were having a negative impact on game species (78% support).
- Removing the wolves from feed grounds if they were negatively impacting elk or moose (77% support).
- Proactively removing a wolf or wolf pack before they became a problem (69% support).
- ➤ Sixty-nine percent of respondents overall supported having the State of Wyoming provide General Fund revenues to help fund wolf management. Higher support was given for supplementing wolf management expenses with Federal and private funds rather than using state General Fund revenue alone.

Eighty-two percent of respondents overall supported, with a majority (53%) strongly supporting, efforts by the WGFD to obtain money from either the Federal government or private groups to help fund wolf management.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Executive Summary	i
Table of Contents	V
Introduction and Methodology	1
Telephone Survey Methodology	1
Survey Results	
Opinions on Wolves in Wyoming	5
Exposure to and Information Needs on Wolves in Wyoming	17
Opinions on Possible Wolf Management Plans	24
Opinions on Wolf Management Responsibilities	24
Opinions on Dual Classification	31
Opinions on Wolf Management Expansion and Attempts to Reduce Human/Wolf	Conflicts
	40
Opinions on Possible Funding Initiatives for Wolf Management	55
Recreational and Demographic Characteristics	58
Appendix A – Additional Respondent Comments	72
Appendix B - Survey Instrument	75

#### INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted on behalf of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) to assess Wyoming residents' opinions on wolves and wolf management in Wyoming. It is possible that, soon, Wyoming's wolves could be removed from protection under the Endangered Species Act. As part of the process to prepare for the removal of Wyoming's wolves from Federal protection, the state is developing a wolf management plan. The purpose of this study was to collect public input on proposed wolf management issues as part of Wyoming's draft wolf management plan.

#### **Telephone Survey Methodology**

For the survey, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the universality of telephone ownership. In addition, a central polling site at the Responsive Management office allowed for rigorous quality control over the interviews and data collection. Responsive Management maintains its own in-house telephone interviewing facilities. These facilities are staffed by interviewers with experience conducting computer-assisted telephone interviews on the subject of wildlife management and natural resources. The WGFD developed the survey questionnaire. A pre-test of the questionnaire was conducted, and revisions were made to the questionnaire based on the pre-test. The survey was administered between December 29, 2002, and January 10, 2003. A total of 1,013 interviews were completed.

Responsive Management has designed a telephone interviewing facility that stresses the importance of highly trained telephone interviewers who work under the close supervision of Responsive Management senior staff. To ensure that the telephone survey data collected were of the highest quality, Responsive Management employs interviewers who have been trained according to the standards established by the Council of American Survey Research Organizations. Methods of instruction included lecture and role-playing. The Survey Center Managers conducted project briefings with the interviewers prior to the administration of the survey. Interviewers were instructed on type of study, study goals and objectives, handling of survey questions, interview length, termination points and qualifiers for participation, interviewer instructions within the survey instrument, reading of the survey instrument, skip patterns, and probing and clarifying techniques necessary for specific questions on the survey

instrument. The Survey Center Managers randomly monitored telephone workstations without the interviewers' knowledge to evaluate the performance of each interviewer. After the surveys were obtained by the interviewers, the Survey Center Managers and/or statisticians edited each completed survey to ensure clarity and completeness.

Interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday noon to 6:00 p.m., and Sunday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., all local time. A five-callback design was used to maintain the representativeness of the sample, to avoid bias toward people easy to reach by telephone, and to provide an equal opportunity for all to participate. When a respondent could not be reached on the first call, subsequent calls were placed on different days of the week and at different times of the day. This intensive call-back procedure is a good technique for ensuring the highest response rate feasible.

The software used for data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language 4.1 (QPL), which is computer software specifically designed for telephone survey data collection. The survey data were entered into the computer as each interview was being conducted, eliminating manual data entry after the completion of the survey and the concomitant data entry errors that may occur with manual data entry. The survey instrument was programmed so that QPL branched in the survey based on previous responses to ensure the integrity and consistency of the data collection. The analyses of data were performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software. SPSS is a software package that is specifically designed for statistical analyses.

Throughout this report, findings of the general population telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the sample of affected counties, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 7.36 percentage points. For those counties not affected by wolves, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 3.39 percentage points. For the entire sample of Wyoming residents, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 3.08 percentage points. This means that if the survey were conducted 100 times on different samples that were selected in the same way, the findings of 95 out of the 100 surveys would fall within plus or minus 3.08% of each other for the total Wyoming sample. Sampling error was calculated using the formula described below, with a

sample size of 1,013 and a population size for affected counties of 85,761; a population size for counties not affected by wolves of 408,021; and a population size for the state of Wyoming of 493,782. The sampling error equation is as follows:

#### **Sampling error equation:**

$$B = \left(\sqrt{\frac{\frac{N_p(.25)}{N_s} - .25}{N_p - 1}}\right) (1.96)$$

Where: B = maximum sampling error (as decimal)

 $N_P$  = population size (e.g., total number of residents)

 $N_S$  = sample size

Derived from formula: p. 206 in Dillman, D. A. 2000. *Mail and Internet Surveys*. John Wiley & Sons, NY.

**Note**: This is a simplified version of the formula that calculates the <u>maximum</u> sampling error using a 50:50 split (the most conservative calculation because a 50:50 split would give maximum variation).

The data in this report were analyzed by counties affected by wolf populations and counties not affected by wolf populations. Those counties defined as "affected counties" are counties that have a permanent wolf population. Counties defined as being affected by wolf populations are Fremont County, Park County, Sublette County, and Teton County. All data are depicted in graphs by both affected and not affected counties in addition to the state total.

Tabled and graphed values may not always sum exactly to 100%, due to rounding. Finally, questions that allowed respondents to make multiple responses will often add to a figure greater than 100%.

	County	Population	Population Percent	Actual Sample	Actual Sampling Percent	Actual Sampling Error
Affected	Fremont	35,804	7.25	76	7.50	11.23
	Park	25,786	5.22	57	5.63	12.97
	Sublette	5,920	1.20	15	1.48	25.27
	Teton	18,251	3.70	29	2.86	18.18
	Affected Subtotal	85,761	17.37	177	17.47	7.36
	Albany	32,014	6.48	71	7.01	11.62
	Big Horn	11,461	2.32	36	3.55	16.31
	Campbell	33,698	6.82	67	6.61	11.96
	Carbon	15,639	3.17	25	2.47	19.58
	Converse	12,052	2.44	28	2.76	18.50
	Crook	5,887	1.19	13	1.28	27.15
	Goshen	12,538	2.54	26	2.57	19.20
	Hot Springs	4,882	0.99	15	1.48	25.27
	Johnson	7,075	1.43	20	1.97	21.88
Non-	Laramie	81,607	16.53	179	17.67	7.32
Affected	Lincoln	14,573	2.95	25	2.47	19.58
	Natrona	66,533	13.47	90	8.88	10.32
	Niobrara	2,407	0.49	12	1.18	28.23
	Platte	8,807	1.78	15	1.48	25.28
	Sheridan	26,560	5.38	65	6.42	12.14
	Sweetwater	37,613	7.62	84	8.29	10.68
	Uinta	19,742	4.00	23	2.27	20.42
	Washakie	8,289	1.68	19	1.88	22.46
	Weston	6,644	1.35	23	2.27	20.40
	Non-Affected Subtotal	408,021	82.63	836	82.53	3.39
TOTAL		493,782	100	1,013	3.08	100

#### **SURVEY RESULTS**

#### **Opinions on Wolves in Wyoming**

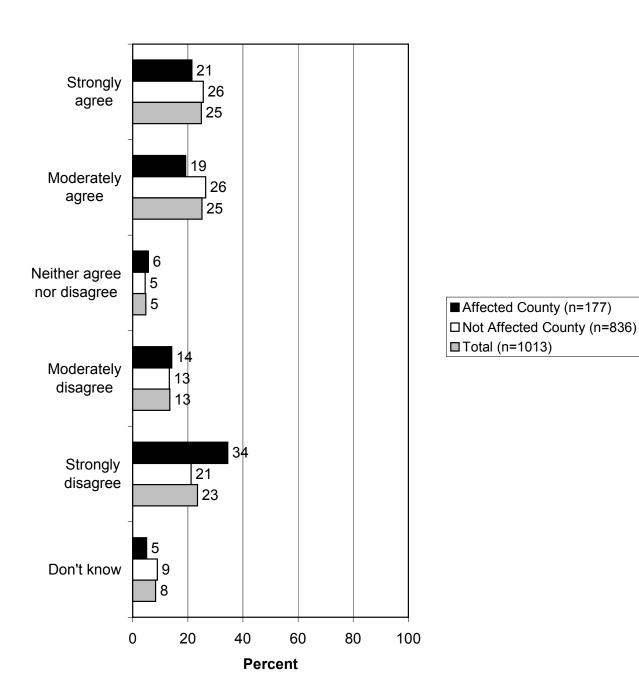
Half (50%) of respondents overall either strongly or moderately agreed that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming, while slightly more than a third (36%) of respondents overall disagreed that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming.

A statistically significant difference in agreement and disagreement about the benefit of wolves in Wyoming was evident between those who lived in affected counties and those who did not. A majority (52%) of respondents in counties not affected by wolves strongly or moderately agreed wolves are a benefit to Wyoming, while somewhat less than a majority (40%) of respondents who lived in affected counties strongly or moderately agreed that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming.

Respondents who lived in affected counties were more inclined to disagree that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming. Forty-eight percent of respondents living in affected counties (14% moderately and 34% strongly) disagreed that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming. In comparison, just over a third (34%) of respondents in counties not affected by wolves disagreed (13% moderately and 21% strongly) that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming.

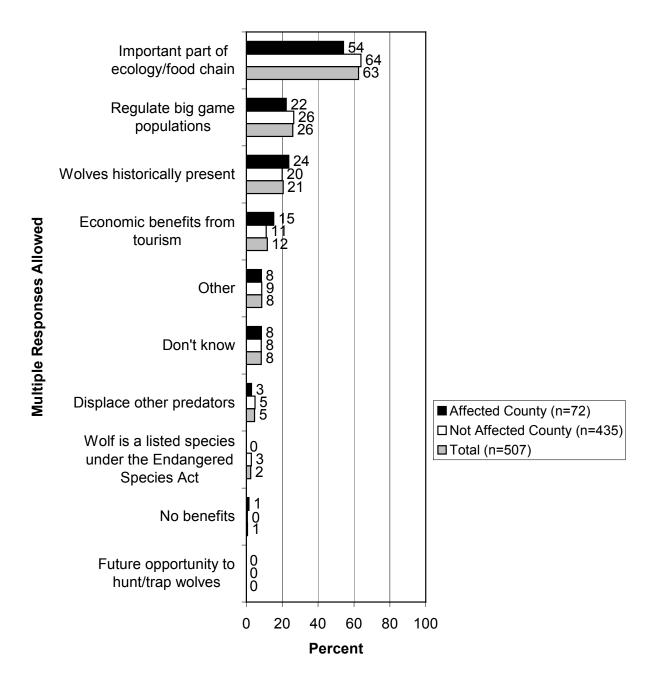
Respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves were more inclined to agree that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming. Fifty-two percent of respondents in counties not affected by wolves agreed that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming compared, to 40% of respondents within affected counties.

# Q5. Would you agree or disagree that the wolf population is a benefit to Wyoming?



Of those respondents who reported that they agree that wolves are a benefit to Wyoming, most felt wolves are a benefit to Wyoming for naturalistic reasons that reflect the opinion that wolves are a part of the ecosystem. The most popular reason given for why wolves are a benefit to Wyoming, and the only reason given by a majority of respondents, is that "wolves are an important part of the ecology/food chain," given by 63% of those respondents who agreed wolves are a benefit to Wyoming. Other popular reasons given by those who agreed wolves are a benefit to Wyoming were "wolves regulate big game populations" (26%) and "wolves have been historically present" (21%).

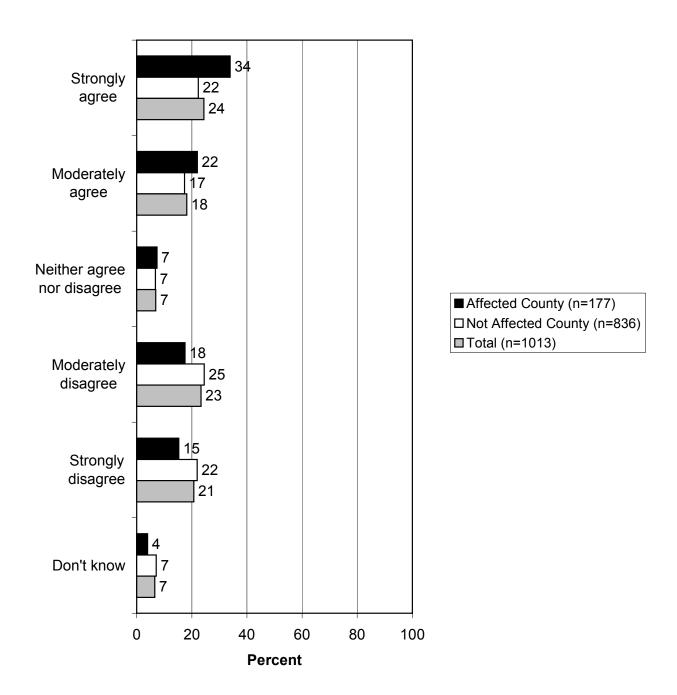
Q7. What benefits do you think wolves bring to Wyoming? (asked of those who agreed that wolves are a benefit to WY)



Respondents were nearly equally divided on whether they agreed or disagreed that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming. Forty-four percent of respondents disagreed that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming, while 42% of respondents agreed that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming.

A statistically significant difference in agreement and disagreement about whether the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming was evident between those who lived in affected counties and those who did not. Respondents living in affected counties were more inclined to agree the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming, while respondents living in counties not affected by wolves were more inclined to disagree that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming. A majority (56%) of respondents living within affected counties agreed the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming, and most of this agreement (34%) was strong agreement. Thirty-nine percent of respondents living in counties not affected by wolves agreed the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming. In comparison, 47% of respondents living in counties not affected by wolves disagreed that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming. A third (33%) of respondents living in affected counties disagreed that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming.

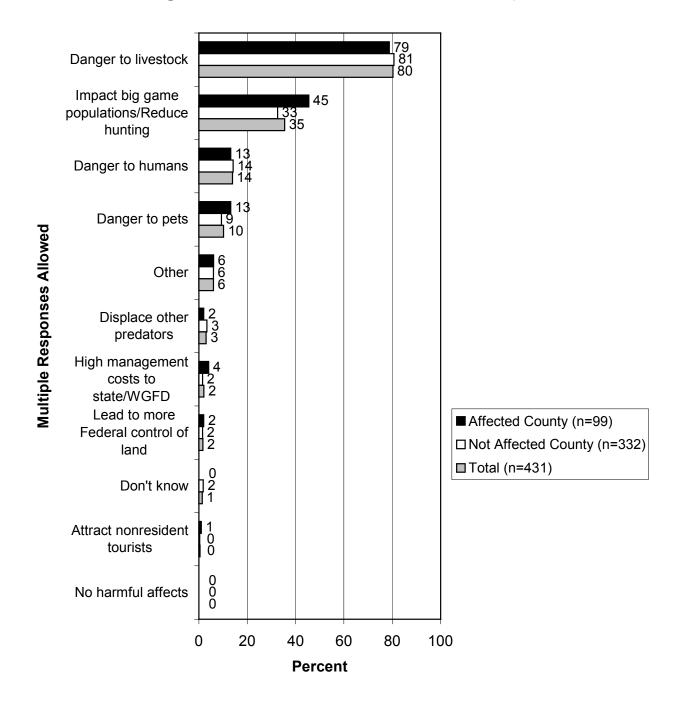
# Q9. Would you agree or disagree that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming?



Of those respondents who reported that they agree that the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming, the most popular reason given, and the only reason given by a majority of respondents overall, was "wolves are a danger to livestock" (80%). Another harmful effect of wolves ranked highly by those who agreed the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming was "wolves impact big game populations/reduce hunting opportunities," given by 35% of respondents overall.

No statistically significant difference existed between respondents of affected counties and counties not affected by wolves. Seventy-nine percent of respondents residing in counties not affected by wolves who agreed the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming, and 80% of respondents residing in affected counties who agreed the wolf population is harmful to Wyoming said "danger to livestock" is a harmful effect associated with wolves.

Q11. What harmful effects do you associate with wolves' being in Wyoming? (asked of those who agreed that wolves are harmful to WY)



When respondents were asked about wolves in terms of a "benefit" to Wyoming (Question 5) compared to when asked if wolves were "harmful" to Wyoming (Question 9), respondents tended to be slightly more positive toward wolves. The term "benefit" produced more responses supportive of wolves, while the term "harmful" produced slightly more responses of opposition toward wolves.

In addition to the effects of wolves in Wyoming, respondents were also asked about acceptable levels of population and predation of wolves in Wyoming. Respondents were informed that, "At the present time, biologists estimate there could be as many as 250 wolves living in Wyoming," and then were asked if they would agree or disagree that this is an acceptable population level for wolves living in Wyoming. If respondents asked for more information on the population level of wolves, they were informed,

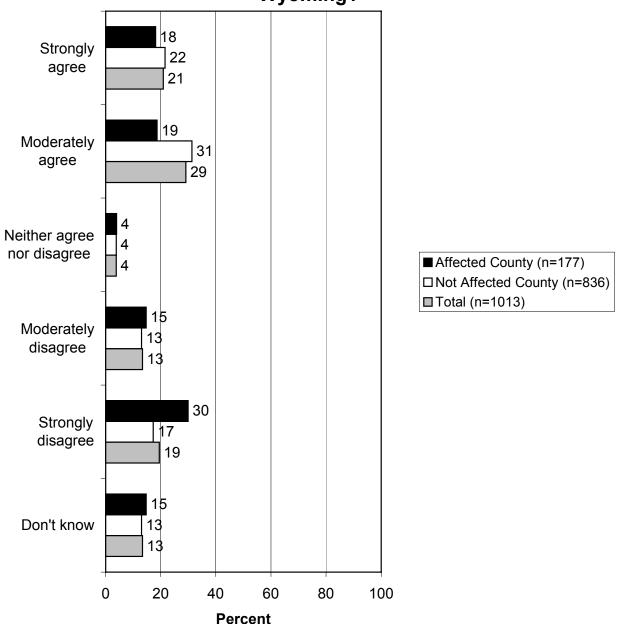
Wolf reproduction up to now has averaged about 22% per year. If this trend continues and no management controls are initiated, Wyoming could have 305 wolves in 2003 and 372 wolves in 2004. Of the wolves in Wyoming, approximately 160 occupy territories within Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, and approximately 90 occupy territories in other parts of Wyoming.

Half (50%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately agreed that 250 wolves in Wyoming is an acceptable population level for wolves; however, a noticeably lower percentage of respondents who lived within affected counties strongly or moderately agreed this is an acceptable population level. Thirty-seven percent of respondents who live in affected counties agreed that 250 wolves is an acceptable population level compared to 53% of respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves. There was a statistically significant difference between respondents who lived in affected counties and respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves. Respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves were more likely to agree that 250 wolves was an acceptable population level compared to respondents who lived in counties affected by wolves.

Forty-five percent of respondents who live in affected counties strongly or moderately disagreed that 250 wolves is an acceptable population level compared to 30% of respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves. Twice as much disagreement with the population level was strong rather than moderate disagreement among respondents in affected counties, indicating

most respondents in affected counties strongly disagreed that 250 wolves living in Wyoming is an acceptable population level for wolves.

Q13. At the present time, biologists estimate there could be as many as 250 wolves living in Wyoming. Would you agree or disagree that this is an acceptable population level for wolves living in Wyoming?

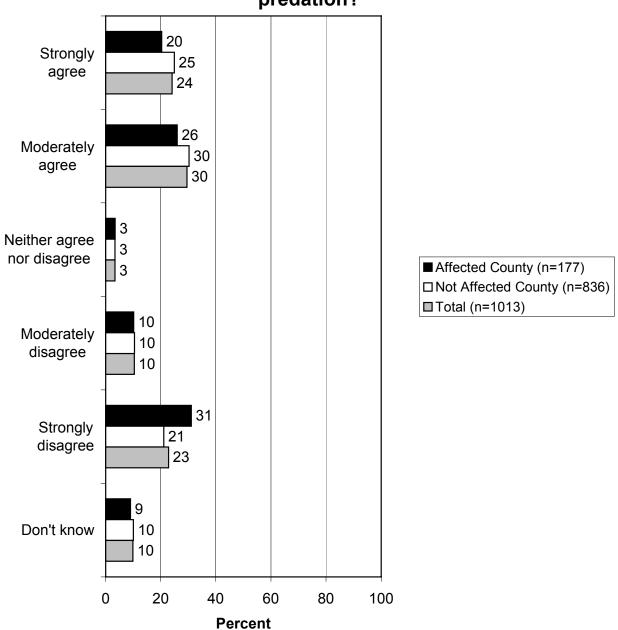


Respondents were informed, "During 2001, in Wyoming, wolves are estimated to have killed 2,048 elk, 523 mule deer, 44 bison, 44 moose, and 44 antelope," and then they were asked if they would agree or disagree that this is an acceptable level of predation. If the respondent asked for more information on wolf predation, they were informed,

2,048 elk equaled 3.8% of elk in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 523 mule deer equaled 0.42% of mule deer in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 44 bison equaled 7% of bison in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 44 moose equaled 0.46% of moose in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and 44 antelope equaled between 0.05% and 0.07% of antelope in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

Overall, a majority (54%) of respondents strongly or moderately agreed that the 2001 level of wolf predation was acceptable. Again, however, there was a statistically significant difference between respondents in affected counties and respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves. Respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves were more likely to agree that the 2001 levels of predation were acceptable, and respondents of affected counties were less likely to agree that the 2001 levels of predation were acceptable. A majority (55%) of respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves agreed that the 2001 levels of wolf predation were acceptable, and 31% of respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves disagreed that the 2001 levels of wolf predation were acceptable. In contrast, respondents who live in affected counties were nearly equally split in agreement and disagreement about an acceptable predation level. Forty-six percent of respondents who live in affected counties agreed and 41% of respondents who live in affected counties disagreed that the 2001 levels of wolf predation were acceptable.

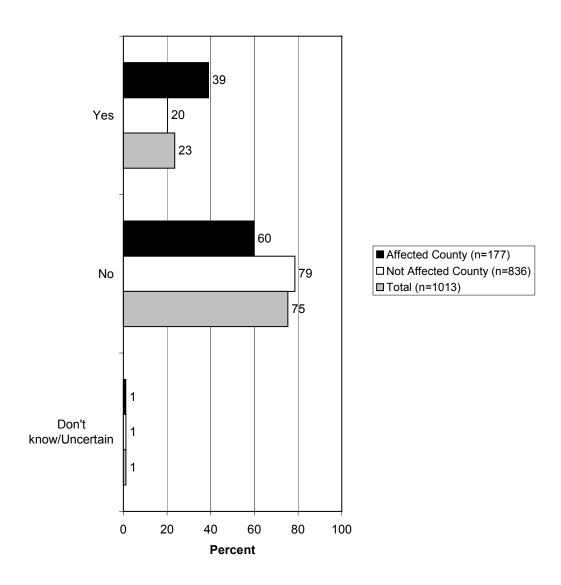
Q14. During 2001, in Wyoming, wolves are estimated to have killed 2,048 elk, 523 mule deer, 44 bison, 44 moose, and 44 antelope. Would you agree or disagree that this is an acceptable level of predation?



### **Exposure to and Information Needs on Wolves in Wyoming**

Less than a majority of respondents overall, including those who live in affected counties, had seen a wolf in Wyoming during the past five years. Twenty-three percent of respondents overall had seen a wolf during the past five years. Thirty-nine percent of respondents who lived in affected counties had seen a wolf during the past five years.

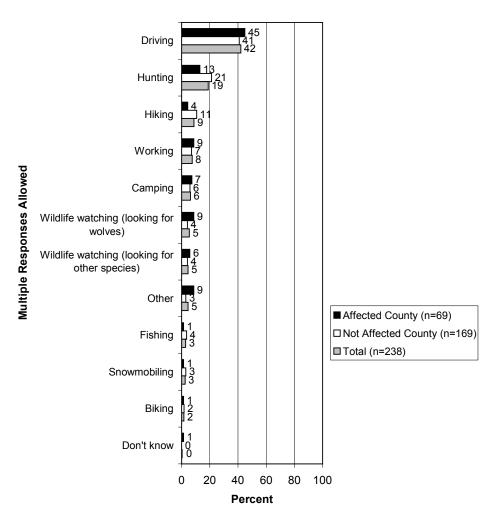
Q15. During the past five years, have you seen a wolf in Wyoming?



Of those respondents who had seen a wolf during the past five years, most had been driving (42%) when they saw the wolf or wolves. Less than 20% of respondents who had seen a wolf or wolves reported that they had been participating in other outdoor recreation activities when they saw a wolf or wolves.

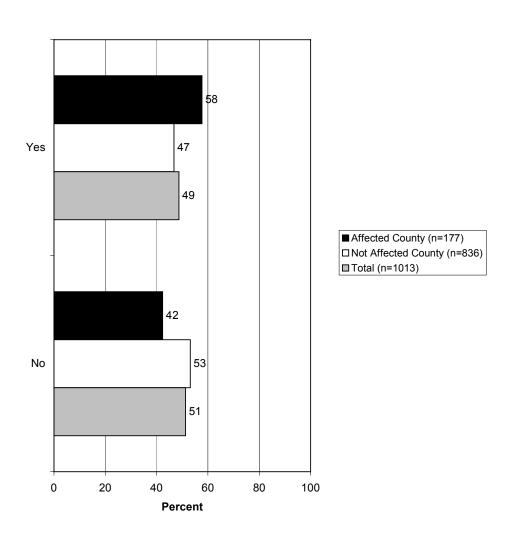
- 19% had been hunting when they saw a wolf or wolves
- 9% had been hiking when they saw a wolf or wolves
- 8% had been working when they saw a wolf or wolves
- 6% had been camping when they saw a wolf or wolves
- 5% had been wildlife watching for wolves when they saw a wolf or wolves
- 5% had been wildlife watching for wildlife species other than wolves when they saw a wolf or wolves

Q17. When you saw the wolf (wolves), what were you doing? (asked of those who had seen a wolf in Wyoming during the past five years)



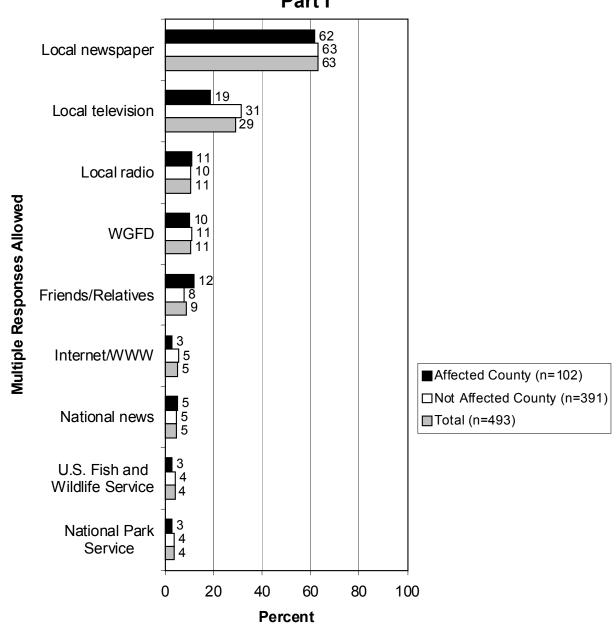
Almost half (49%) of respondents had obtained information about Wyoming's wolves during the past five years. A slightly higher percentage (58%) of respondents who lived in affected counties had obtained information on wolves during the past five years. Of those respondents who had obtained information, they obtained this information from a variety of sources; however, the only source to be utilized by over a majority those respondents who obtained information was a local newspaper (63%). Local television (29%), local radio (11%), and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (11%) were the only other sources utilized by more than ten percent of the respondents who obtained information about wolves. A complete list of all sources used to obtain information on wolves can be found in the graph for Question 21.

Q19. During the past five years, have you obtained information about Wyoming's wolves?

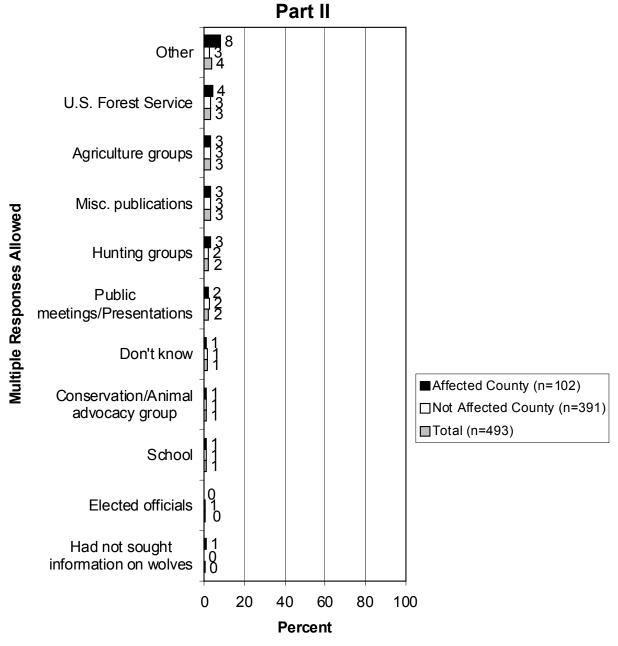


Q21. Sources of information respondents received information from about wolves (asked of those who had obtained information about WY's wolves during the past five years)

Part I



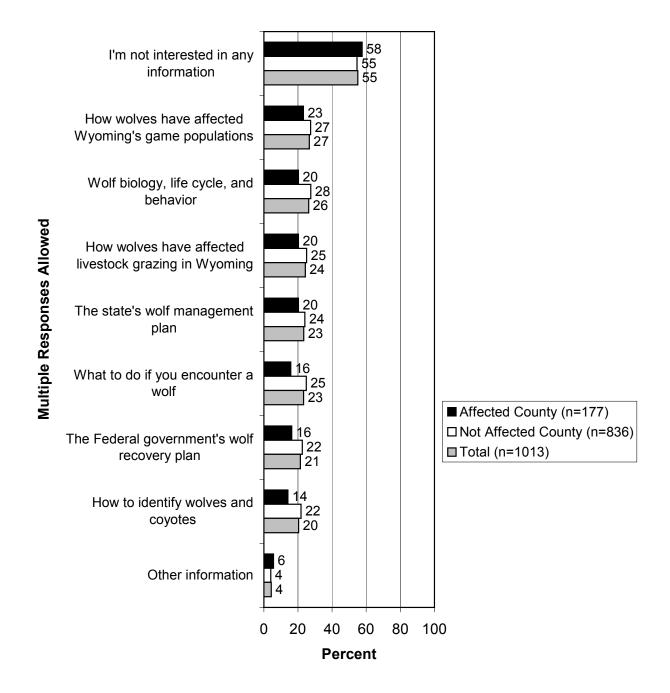
Q21. Sources of information respondents received information from about wolves (asked of those who had obtained information about WY's wolves during the past five years)



A majority (55%) of respondents were not interested in any information about Wyoming's wolves. Of those respondents who did want more information on wolves, they reported wanting information on a variety of topics at nearly equal rates of interest. All informational topics listed about wolves were desired by 20 - 30% of respondents.

- How wolves have affected Wyoming's game populations (27%)
- Wolf biology, life cycle, and behavior (26%)
- How wolves have affected livestock grazing in Wyoming (24%)
- The state's wolf management plan (23%)
- What to do if you encounter a wolf (23%)
- The Federal government's wolf recovery plan (21%)
- How to identify wolves and covotes (20%)

Q24. Would you like more information about Wyoming's wolves? What type of information would you like about Wyoming's wolves?



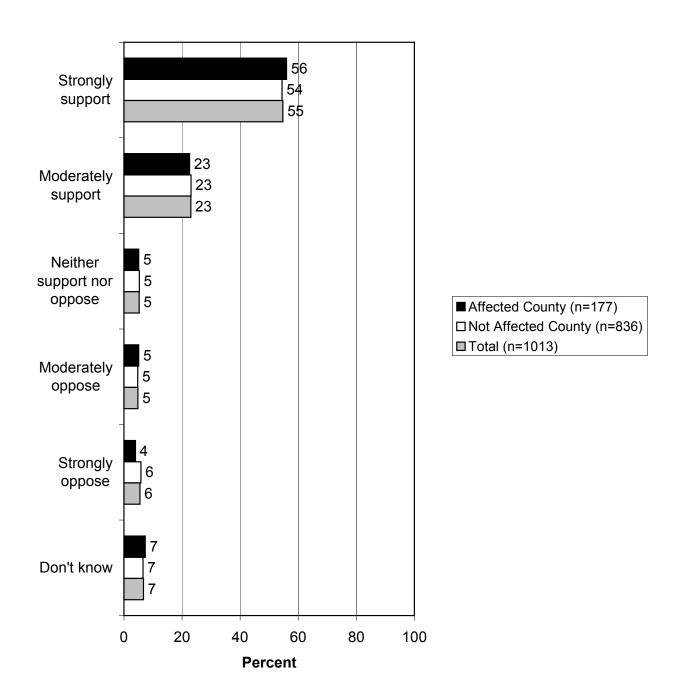
#### **Opinions on Possible Wolf Management Plans**

### **Opinions on Wolf Management Responsibilities**

A majority (78%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately supported efforts to return the management responsibility for Wyoming's wolves to the WGFC and the WGFD. Most support, representing a majority (55%) of respondents, strongly supported returning wolf management responsibility to the WGFC and the WGFD. If respondents asked for further clarification about management responsibilities, they were informed that, "Wolves in Wyoming are not endangered; however, they are protected under a specific provision of the Endangered Species Act. As such, Federal agencies are currently responsible for the management of wolves in Wyoming."

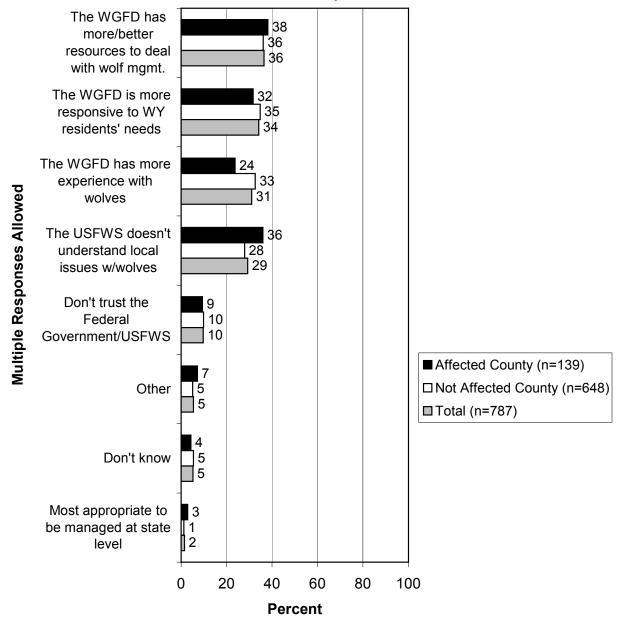
There was no statistically significant difference of opinion on this question between respondents who lived in affected counties and those who did not.

Q26. Do you oppose or support efforts to return the management responsibility for Wyoming's wolves to the WGFC and the WGFD?



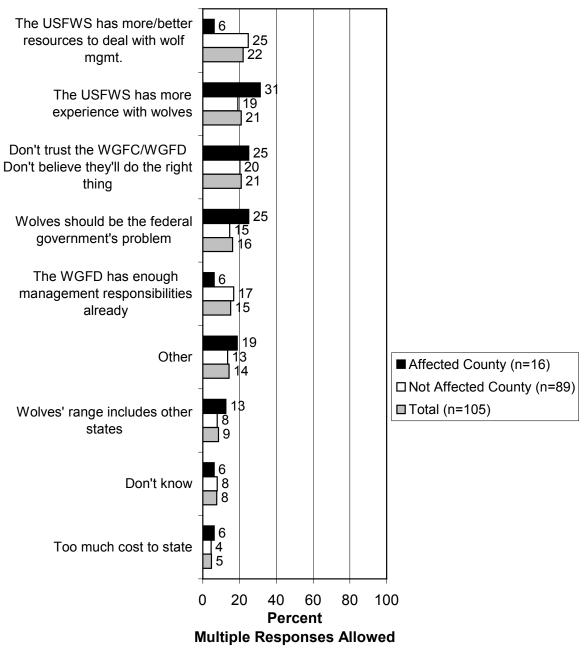
Differences in opinion about who should have management responsibilities for wolves in Wyoming appeared to be based on whom respondents believed has better resources and experience to manage wolves, either the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the WGFC and WGFD. Of those respondents who supported returning management responsibilities to the WGFC and the WGFD, most expressed confidence in the state of Wyoming because they felt the state has better resources and experience than does the USFWS, and they believed the WGFD better understands Wyoming residents' needs. Thirty-six percent of respondents who supported efforts to return wolf management responsibilities to the WGFC and the WGFD did so because, The WGFD has more/better resources to deal with wolf management; 34% said, The WGFD is more responsive to Wyoming residents' needs; 31% said, The WGFD has more experience with wolves; and 29% said, The USFWS doesn't understand local issues with wolves.

Q31. Why do you support efforts to return the management responsibility to the WGFC and the WGFD? (asked of those who supported returning management responsibilities to the WGFC and the WGFD)



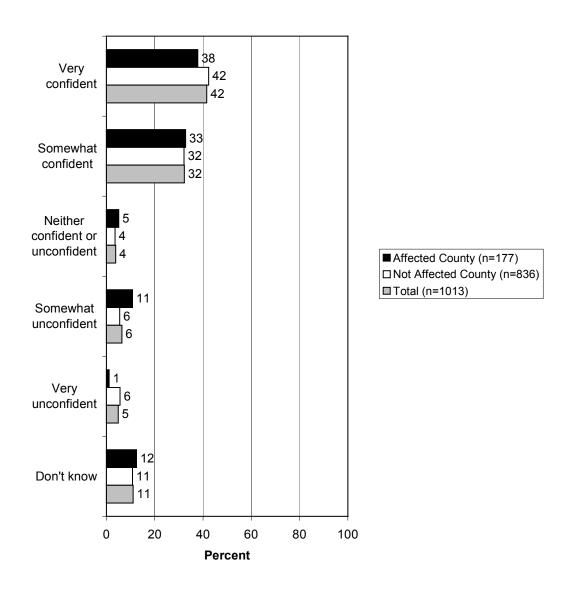
Of those respondents who opposed returning management responsibility to the WGFC and the WGFD, most expressed confidence in the USFWS as better able to manage wolves because they felt the USFWS has better resources and experience with wolves than does the WGFD. Twenty-two percent of respondents who opposed returning management responsibility to the WGFC and the WGFD did so because, The USFWS has more/better resources to deal with wolf management; 21% said, The USFWS has more experience with wolves; 21% said, Don't trust the WGFC/WGFD and don't believe they'll do the right thing; and 16% said, Wolves should be the Federal government's problem.

Q28. Why do you oppose efforts to return the management responsibility for wolves to the WGFC and the WGFD? (asked of those who opposed returning management responsibilities to the WGFC and the WGFD)



A majority (74%) of respondents overall were very or somewhat confident in the WGFD's ability to successfully manage wolves in Wyoming once the Federal protections have been removed. Eleven percent of respondents overall were somewhat or very unconfident in the WGFD's ability to successfully manage wolves.

Q33. How confident are you in the WGFD's ability to successfully manage wolves in Wyoming once the Federal protections have been removed?



#### **Opinions on Dual Classification**

Opinions on various issues regarding the Wyoming draft management plan were assessed. The first issue related to the use of a dual classification for wolves in the draft management plan. The use of a dual classification of wolves was first explained to respondents before they were asked if they would oppose or support creating a dual classification for wolves in Wyoming. The dual classification of wolves was explained as follows:

Wolves are currently classified as a "Predatory Animal" statewide, under Wyoming statute. In addition to wolves, this legal designation includes coyotes, jack rabbits, porcupines, raccoons, red foxes, skunks, and stray cats. By being classified as a "Predatory Animal," there are no state restrictions on the killing of wolves.

The WGFC is proposing to change the wolf's status from "Predatory Animal" to "Trophy Game" within Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park and the designated wilderness areas within the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests. Within the national parks, wolves are given full protection, and no hunting is allowed. Under this plan, wolves could be hunted as "Trophy Game" in the 2.5 million acres of wilderness areas in Wyoming, and the "Predatory Animal" status would remain in effect in all other parts of the state.

Additional information was provided to respondents if they asked for clarification. The following information was available to respondents who asked for clarification of the dual classification proposal:

Mountain lions and black bears are trophy game species that are currently hunted in Wyoming.

These wilderness areas are not neighboring areas, a situation which may cause problems in the future.

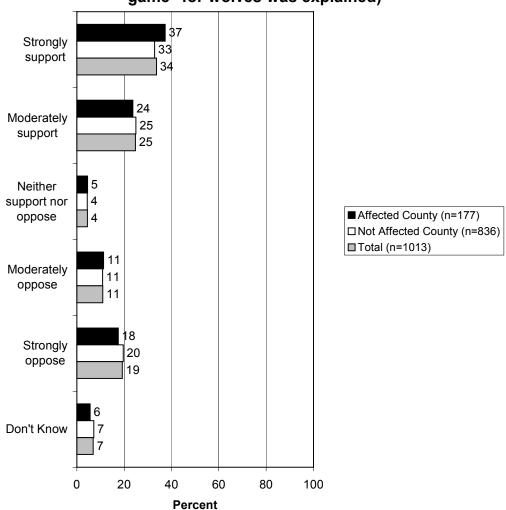
Changing the wolf's status from "Predatory Animal" to "Trophy Game" in Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, and the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests' wilderness areas and continue to have them classified as "Predatory Animals" in all other parts of Wyoming.

Federal protections related to the Endangered Species Act currently override Wyoming's "Predatory Animal" classification.

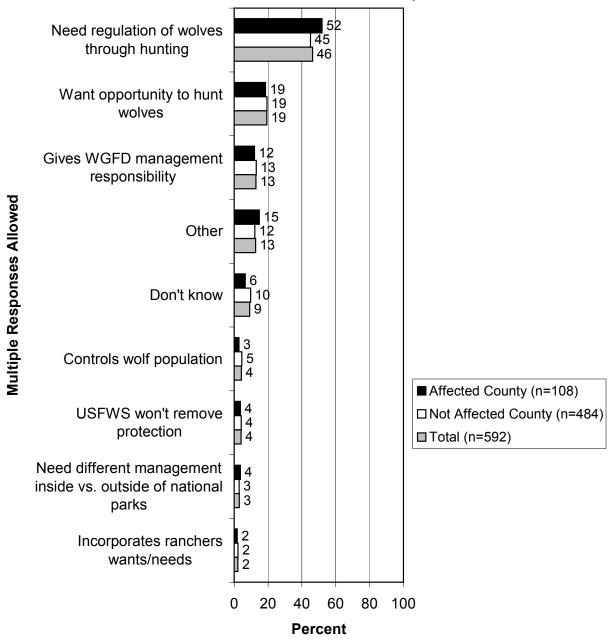
Before the wolf's Federal protections can be removed, the USFWS has indicated Wyoming must show that it can legally limit the number of wolves killed so the population can remain above recovery level. This dual status may hinder efforts to remove Federal protections from Wyoming's wolves.

Fifty-nine percent of respondents overall strongly or moderately supported creating a dual classification for wolves in Wyoming; 30% of respondents overall strongly or moderately opposed a dual classification for wolves. The most popular reason given in support of the dual classification proposal, by those who supported the plan, was, "need regulation of wolves through hunting" (46%). Reasons given by much lower percentages of those who supported a dual classification were "want the opportunity to hunt wolves"(19%) and "gives WGFD management responsibility" (13%).

Q36. Would you oppose or support creating a dual classification for wolves in Wyoming? (asked after the proposed draft plan that would produce a dual classification of "predatory animal" and "trophy game" for wolves was explained)

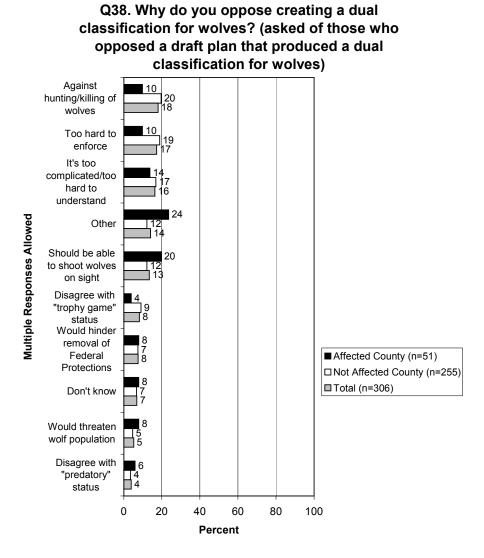


Q41. Why do you support creating a dual classification for wolves? (asked of those who supported a draft plan that produced a dual classification for wolves)



Reasons given for opposition to a dual classification, by those who opposed the plan, included "against hunting/killing wolves" (18%), "too hard to enforce" (17%), and "it's too complicated/too hard to understand" (16%).

A noticeable difference in reasons for opposition existed between respondents who lived in affected counties and respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves. The most popular reason for opposition to a dual classification by respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves and opposed the plan was "against hunting/killing wolves" (20%). The most popular reason for opposition to a dual classification by respondents of affected counties who opposed the plan was "should be able to shoot wolves on sight" (20%).



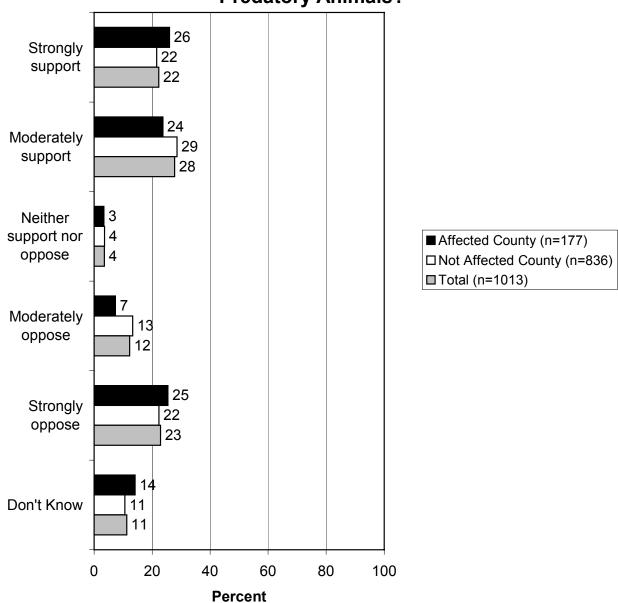
Within the group of respondents who live in counties not affected by wolves, a divergence of responses appeared. Twenty percent of respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves who opposed the plan stated they opposed the dual classification proposal because they were against hunting/killing wolves; however, 19% of respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves who supported the plan stated they supported the dual classification proposal because they wanted the opportunity to hunt wolves.

After the dual classification proposal was explained and support or opposition determined, respondents were asked if they would support or oppose a management plan where wolf management responsibilities were divided between the WGFD and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA). The proposal was explained as follows:

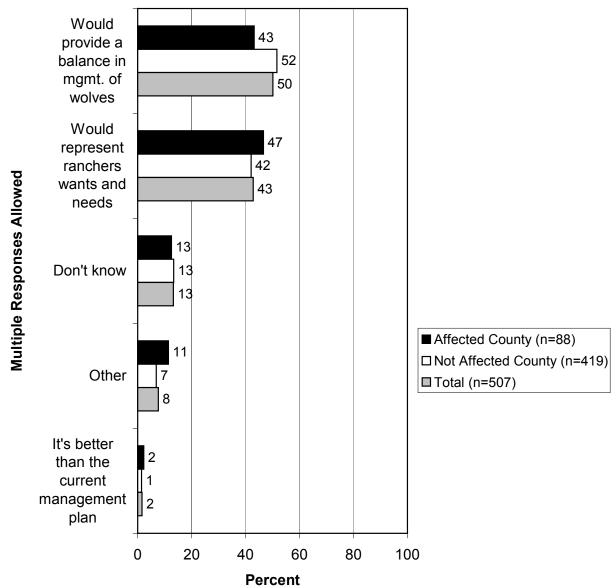
Due to the wolf's legal classification as a "predatory animal," it is possible that the management responsibility for wolves could be shared by the WGFD and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA). Under this option, the WGFD would be responsible for managing wolves in areas where they are designated as trophy game (i.e., wilderness areas in the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests). The WDA would be responsible for managing wolves in the parts of Wyoming where they would be designated as predators (i.e., outside of national parks and the wilderness areas in the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests).

Half (50%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately supported dividing wolf management responsibilities between the WGFD and the WDA. Thirty-five percent of respondents overall strongly or moderately opposed a plan that divided wolf management responsibilities. Among those respondents who supported a plan that divided wolf management responsibilities, two reasons were given by high percentages of respondents in support of the plan. The most popular reason, given, by half (50%) of respondents who supported the plan, was that the plan would provide a balance in management of wolves. The second most popular reason given by those respondents who supported the plan was that the plan would represent ranchers wants and needs (43%).

Q44. Do you think you would oppose or support a management plan where the WGFD would manage wolves in areas where they are designated as "Trophy Game" and the WDA would manage wolves in areas where they are designated as "Predatory Animals?"



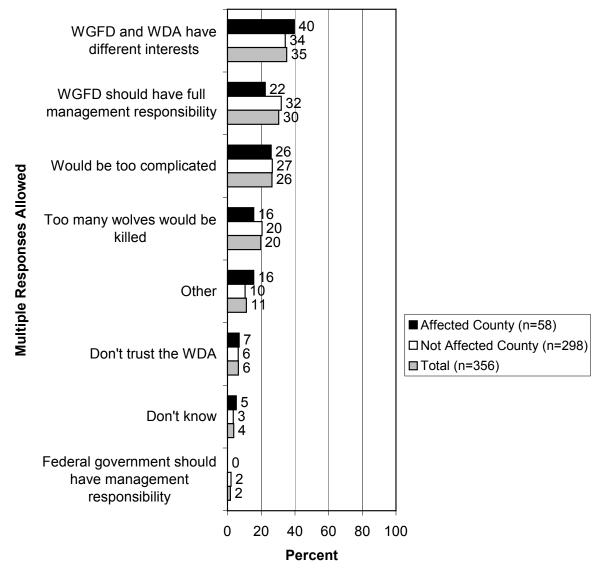
Q49. Why would you support a management plan where the WDA would manage wolves as predators outside of wilderness areas in NW Wyoming? (asked of those who supported divided wolf management responsibilities between WDA and the WGFD)



Reasons for opposition to a plan that divides wolf management responsibilities pertained to the difference in the agencies to whom respondents believed management responsibilities should be given and logistical concerns. Thirty-five percent of respondents who opposed a plan that divided wolf management responsibilities stated they opposed the plan because they felt, The WGFD and the WDA have different interests. Thirty-percent of respondents who opposed the plan felt, The WGFD should have full management responsibilities. Just over a quarter (26%) of respondents who opposed the plan felt a divided wolf management plan would be too complicated.

Q46. Why would you oppose a management plan where the WDA would manage wolves as predators outside of wilderness areas in NW Wyoming?

(asked of those who opposed divided wolf management responsibilities between the WDA and the WGFD)



## Opinions on Wolf Management Expansion and Attempts to Reduce Human/Wolf Conflicts

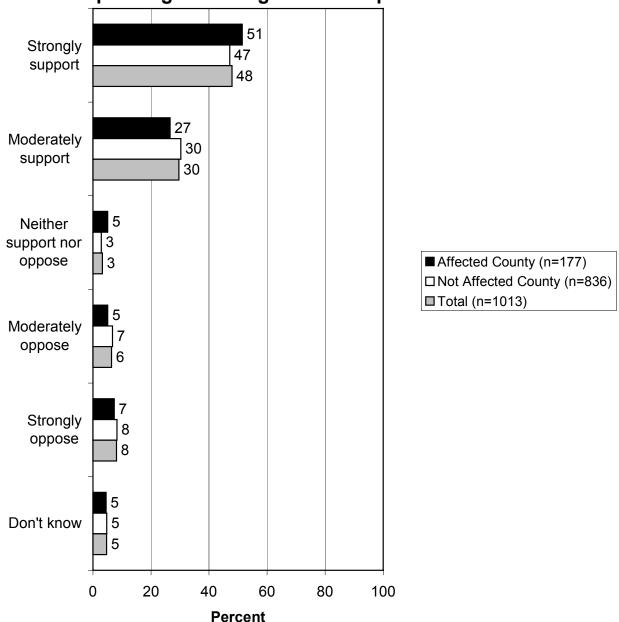
Respondents were asked to give their opinions on the appropriateness of allowing wolves to expand their ranges into additional areas of Wyoming other than those areas where wolves currently live. The current ranges of wolves in Wyoming were explained, and then respondents were asked if they opposed or supported discouraging wolf expansion in Wyoming. Current wolf ranges were explained as follows:

Currently, wolves occupy Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park. They can also be found in parts of Teton, Sublette, Fremont, and Park Counties. These areas contain large tracts of undeveloped public lands (national forests and wilderness areas) and adequate big game populations.

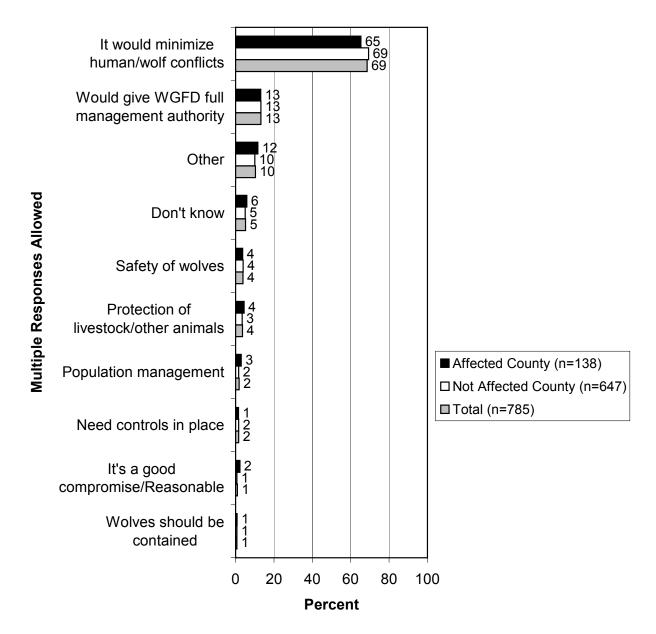
To minimize human/wolf conflicts, the WGFD is proposing to emphasize the management of wolves within the national parks and designated wilderness areas in northwestern Wyoming. Under this plan, the WGFD would also work to discourage wolf expansion into the remaining parts of the state, where suitable habitat is less available and human/wolf conflicts would be more likely to occur.

Over three-quarters (78%) of respondents overall strongly or moderately supported a management plan where wolves are maintained within the national parks and designated wilderness areas in northwest Wyoming, but are discouraged from expanding their ranges to other parts of the state. A low percentage (14%) overall opposed a plan that would discourage wolf expansion. The most common reason among respondents who supported discouraging wolf expansion concerned human safety, and the most common reason for opposition among respondents who opposed discouraging wolf expansion concerned naturalistic reasons. Over two-thirds (69%) of respondents who supported a plan that would discourage wolf expansion to national parks and wilderness areas in northwest Wyoming did so because they felt it would minimize human-wolf conflicts. A majority (56%) of respondents who opposed a plan that would discourage wolf expansion to national parks and wilderness areas in northwest Wyoming did so because they felt wolves should be able to expand naturally. In addition, a quarter (25%) of respondents who opposed a plan that would discourage wolf expansion did so because they felt the WGFD wouldn't be able to contain them.

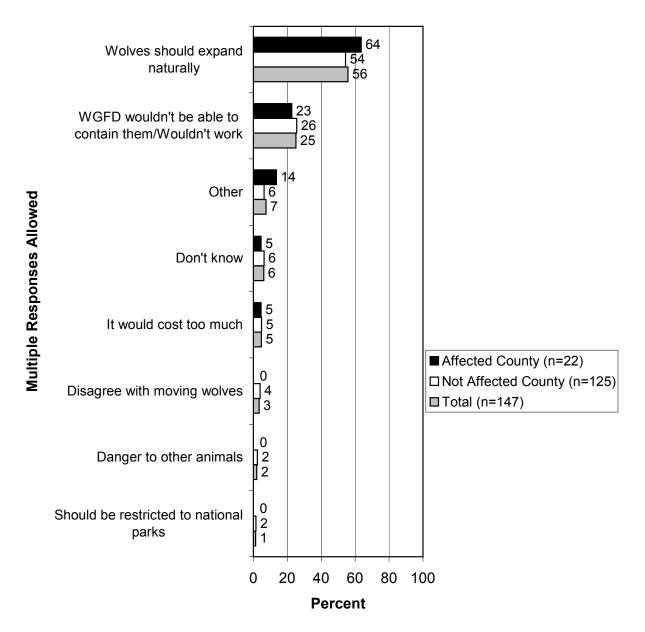
Q52. Would you oppose or support a management plan where wolves were maintained within the national parks and designated wilderness areas in NW Wyoming, but were discouraged from expanding their ranges to other parts of the state?



Q57. Why would you support a management plan that would restrict wolves to the national parks and designated wilderness areas in NW Wyoming? (asked of those who supported restricting the expansion of wolves throughout WY)



Q54. Why would you oppose a management plan that would restrict wolves to the national parks and designated wilderness areas in NW Wyoming? (asked of those who opposed restricting the expansion of wolves throughout WY)



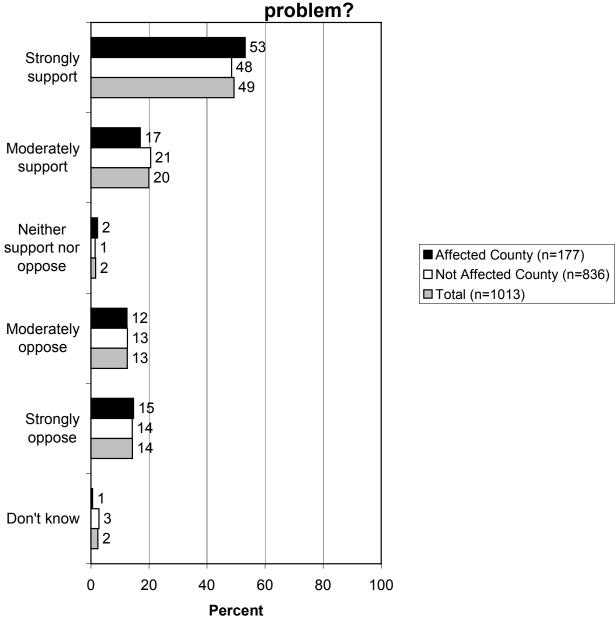
Specific proposed actions the WGFD may take to reduce human/wolf conflicts were presented to respondents to determine support or opposition toward such actions. Respondents were informed:

A key aspect of this draft plan involves minimizing potential conflicts between humans and wolves. Wolves that occupy areas with livestock have been known to prey upon those animals. Some wolves that live in areas near people have been known to kill pets and ranch animals. And wolves that occupy areas near humans are more prone to be killed by automobiles or poachers. For the benefit of both people and wolves, the WGFD would like to minimize the number of human/wolf conflicts. Now, I will ask you a series of questions about conflict resolution, and please tell me if you would support or oppose these options.

Several scenarios concerning wolf contact with humans, livestock, and other game species were presented to respondents, and they were asked if they would support or oppose removal of the wolf or wolf pack in each of these scenarios. If respondents asked for clarification about the removal of wolves, they were informed, "Relocation of wolves is neither efficient nor cost effective when dealing with wolves, and the WGFD has no plans to relocate problem wolves. Problem wolves would most likely be shot or trapped."

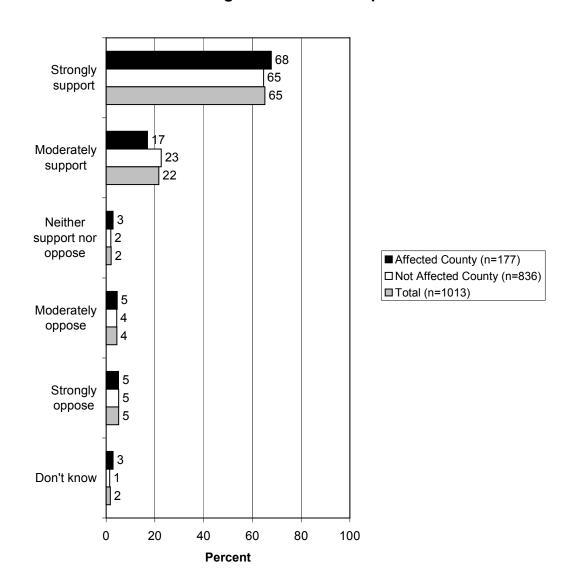
The first scenario presented to respondents was where a wolf or group of wolves moved into an area with high human activity or an area containing livestock, but they were not causing any damage. Respondents were asked if they would oppose or support proactively removing that wolf or wolf pack before they became a problem? (Question 60). Over two-thirds (69%) of respondents overall supported proactively removing the wolf or wolf pack before they became a problem. Twenty-seven percent of respondents overall opposed proactively removing the wolf or wolf pack.

Q60. If a wolf or group of wolves moved into an area with high human activity or an area containing livestock, but they were not causing any damage, would you oppose or support proactively removing that wolf or wolf pack before they became a



The second scenario presented to respondents was where an individual wolf or wolf pack killed either livestock or pets. Respondents were asked if they would oppose or support removing that wolf or wolf pack (Question 61). A strong majority (87%) of respondents overall supported removing the wolf or wolf pack that had killed livestock or pets. Only 9% of respondents overall opposed removing a wolf or wolf pack that had killed livestock or pets.

Q61. If an individual wolf or wolf pack killed either livestock or pets, would you oppose or support removing that wolf or wolf pack?

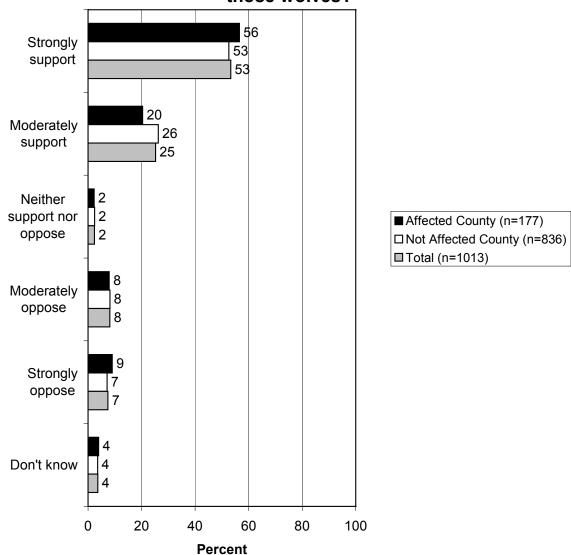


The final scenarios presented to respondents concerned wolf packs on natural winter ranges and feed grounds. Respondents were informed:

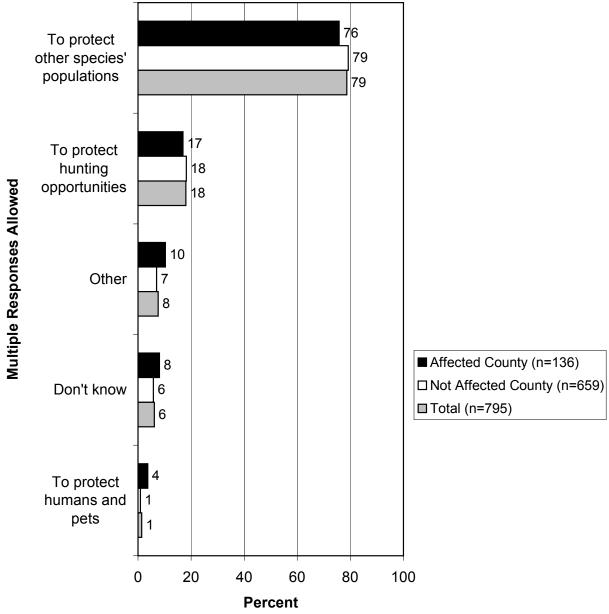
During the winter, some game animals such as elk, moose, and big horn sheep congregate on feed grounds and natural winter ranges. When wolves frequent these areas, they could have an adverse impact on individual herds and herd management activities. Likewise, if enough wolves stay on these winter habitats and drive game either into areas of high human activity or onto private property, damage claims, automobile collisions, and disease transmission between game and livestock could become more common.

The third scenario presented to respondents was where wildlife biologists determined that an individual wolf pack or multiple wolf packs were causing a significant negative impact on game species while they were on natural winter ranges. Respondents were asked if they would oppose or support having WGFD personnel remove those wolves. Respondents were informed that during 2001, wolves in Wyoming were estimated to have consumed 2,048 elk, 523 deer, 44 moose, 44 bison, and 44 antelope and that wolves may also be responsible for low calf:cow ratios in some elk and moose herds. Seventy-eight percent of respondents overall supported having WGFD personnel remove the wolves from natural winter ranges if it was determined they were having a significant negative impact on game species. Fifteen percent of respondents overall opposed removing the wolves from natural winter ranges even if it was determined they were having a significant negative impact on game species. To protect other species' populations was the most common reason given by respondents who supported removing wolves from natural winter ranges if it was determined they were having a negative impact on game species, stated by 79%. Should let wolves prey on animals naturally was the most common reason given by respondents who opposed the removal of wolves from winter ranges, stated by 78%.

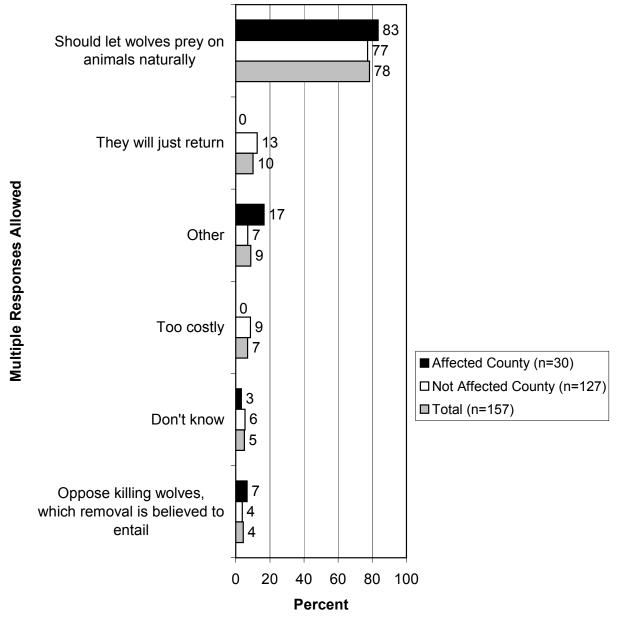
Q64. If wildlife biologists determined that an individual wolf pack or multiple wolf packs were causing a significant negative impact on game species while on natural winter ranges, would you oppose or support having WGFD personnel remove those wolves?



Q69. Why would you support removing wolves that were having a significant negative impact on wildlife herds on winter ranges? (asked of those who supported having the WGFD remove wolves that were negatively impacting game species)



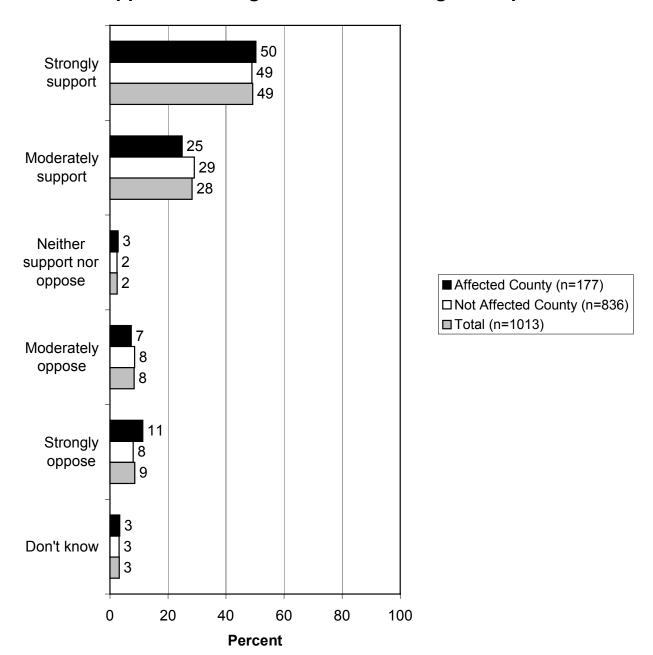
Q66. Why would you oppose removing wolves that were having a significant negative impact on wildlife herds on winter ranges? (asked of those who opposed having the WGFD remove wolves that were negatively impacting game species)



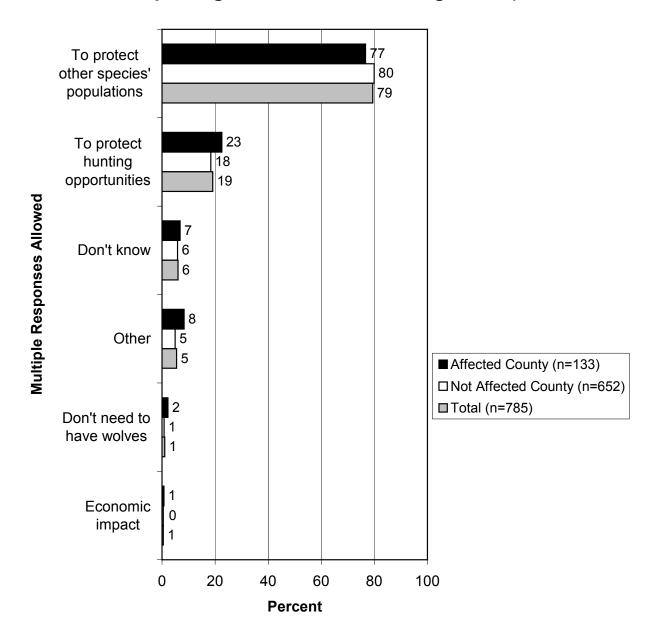
The final scenario presented to respondents was where wildlife biologists determined wolves were having a significant negative impact on the elk or moose utilizing feed grounds.

Respondents were asked if they would oppose or support removing the wolves causing the impact. Opinions similar to those found toward wolves on natural winter ranges were evident toward wolves on feed grounds. Seventy-seven percent of respondents overall supported removing the wolves from feed grounds if they were negatively impacting elk or moose. Seventeen percent of respondents overall opposed the removal of wolves from feed grounds. The same reasons given for support or opposition toward wolves on natural winter ranges were given for support or opposition toward removal of wolves on feed grounds. To protect other species' populations was the most popular reason in support of removal of wolves from feed grounds negatively impacting wildlife herds among respondents who supported removal (79%). Should let wolves from feed grounds among respondents who opposed removal (80%).

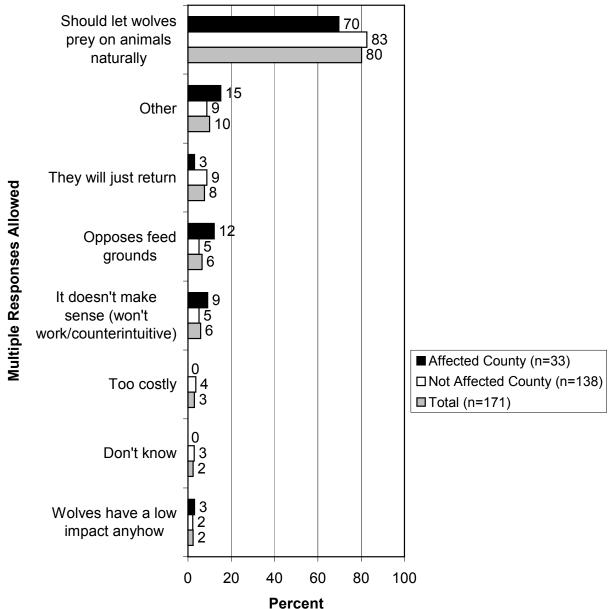
Q72. If wildlife biologists determined wolves were having a significant negative impact on the elk or moose utilizing feed grounds, would you oppose or support removing the wolves causing the impact?



Q77. Why would you support removing wolves that were having a significant negative impact on wildlife herds using feed grounds? (asked of those who supported removing wolves negatively impacting elk or moose on feed grounds)



Q74. Why would you oppose removing wolves that were having a significant negative impact on wildlife herds using feed grounds? (asked of those who opposed removing wolves negatively impacting elk or moose on feed grounds)



### **Opinions on Possible Funding Initiatives for Wolf Management**

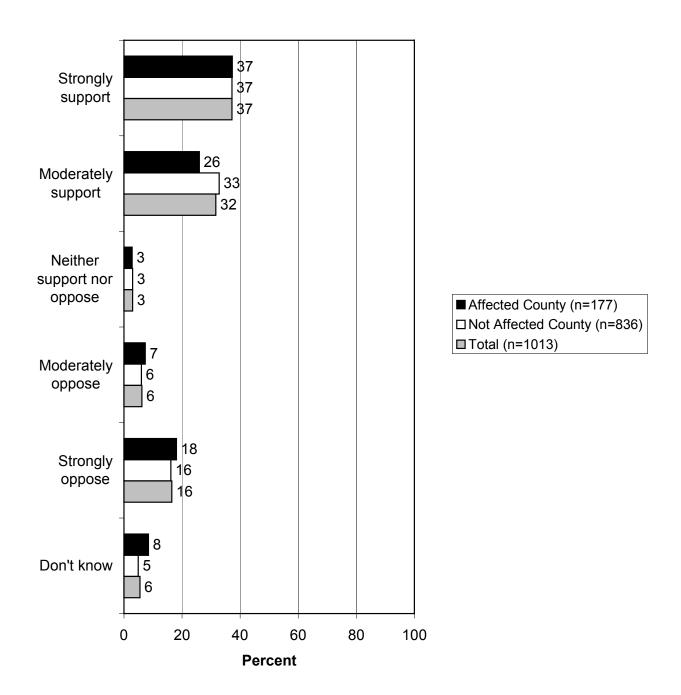
Respondents were informed:

Presently, almost all of WGFD's budget comes from either excise taxes on sporting goods or license fees from hunters and anglers, with non-residents providing about 75% of license revenues. The WGFD does not receive any state tax revenue (i.e., state General Fund) and only receives a small amount of Federal funding. Given the growing volume and variety of wildlife issues in the state and the Department's current financial situation, this traditional funding mechanism will not be sufficient to pay for all wolf management efforts.

After respondents were informed that current funding will not be sufficient to pay for all wolf management efforts, two additional sources of funding were presented. The first funding source concerned additional state funding and the second concerned additional Federal and private funding.

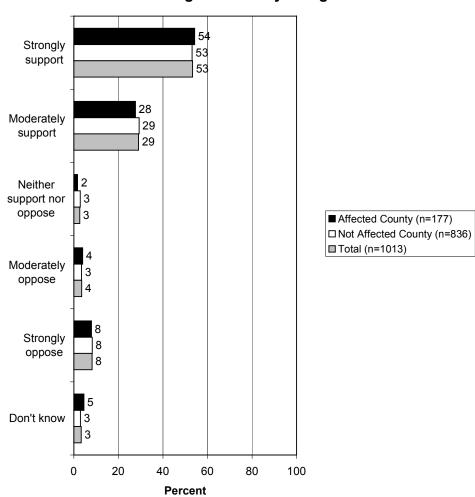
Sixty-nine percent of respondents overall supported having the State of Wyoming provide General Fund revenues to help fund wolf management. Twenty-two percent of respondents overall opposed having General Fund revenue, alone, supplement wolf management efforts.

Q80. Would you oppose or support having the State of Wyoming provide General Fund revenues to help fund wolf management in Wyoming?



Higher support was given for having Federal and private funds supplement wolf management efforts than having state General Fund revenue, alone, supplement wolf management efforts. Eighty-two percent of respondents overall supported, with a majority (53%) *strongly* supporting, efforts by the WGFD to obtain money from either the Federal government or private groups to help fund wolf management. A low percentage (12%) of respondents overall opposed efforts by the WGFD to obtain Federal or private funding for wolf management.

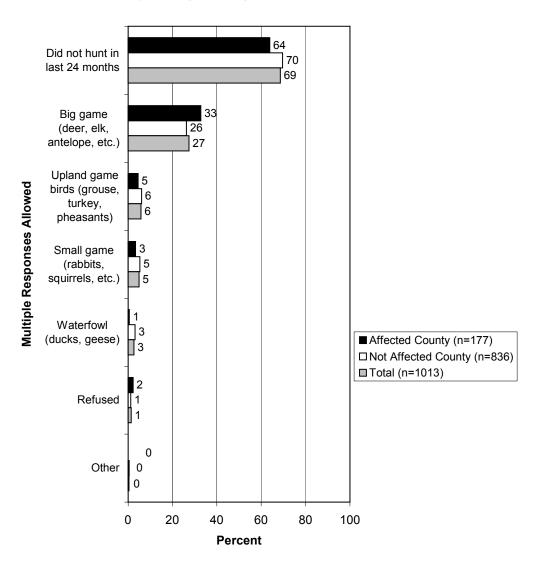
Q81. Would you oppose or support efforts by the WGFD to obtain money from either the Federal government or private groups to help fund wolf management in Wyoming?



### **Recreational and Demographic Characteristics**

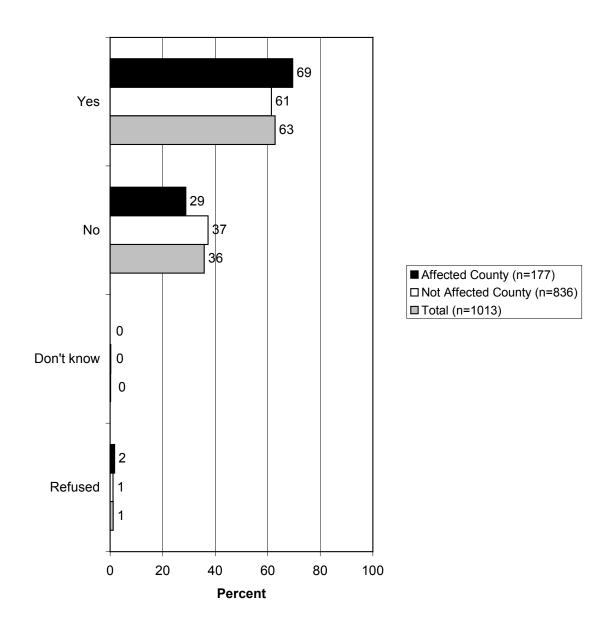
A majority (69%) of respondents had not hunted in the last 24 months. Twenty-seven percent of respondents had hunted big game in the last 24 months. Six percent of respondents had hunted upland game bird in the last 24 months; 5% had hunted small game, and 3% had hunted waterfowl in the last 24 months.

Q86. Did you hunt in Wyoming during the last 24 months? What types of game did you hunt in Wyoming during the last 24 months?



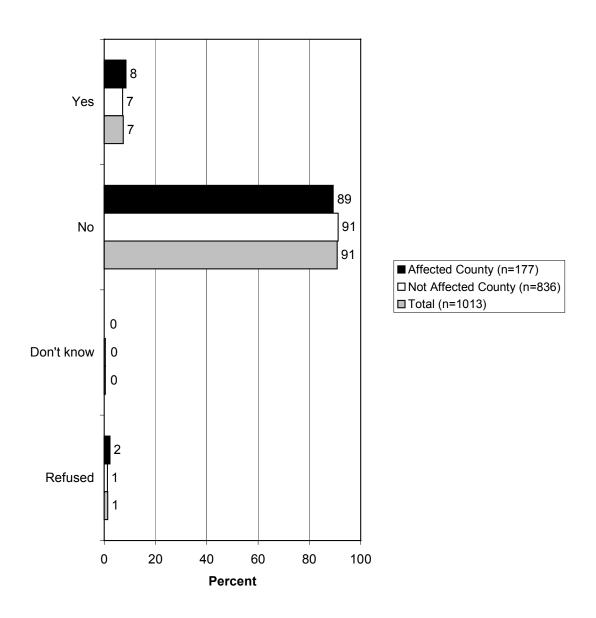
A majority (63%) of respondents had taking a special interest in wildlife by closely observing, feeding, or trying to identify wildlife during the past 12 months.

Q88. During the past 12 months, did you take a special interest in wildlife, that is, closely observing, feeding, or trying to identify wildlife?

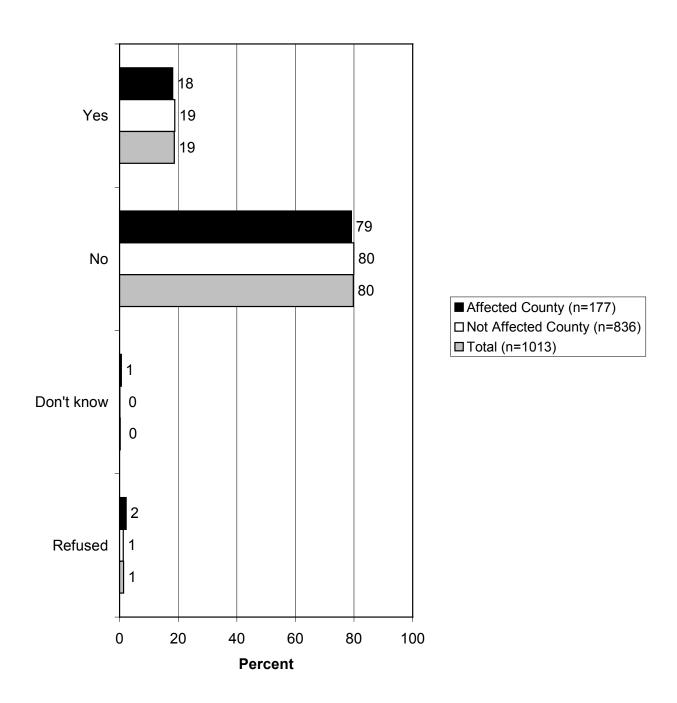


Small percentages of respondents were members of environmental, agricultural, industrial, or conservation organizations. The largest percentage (19%) of respondents overall belonged to a sportsmen's or conservation organization. Less than a tenth of respondents overall were members of an agricultural or industrial organization (7%) or an environmental organization (5%).

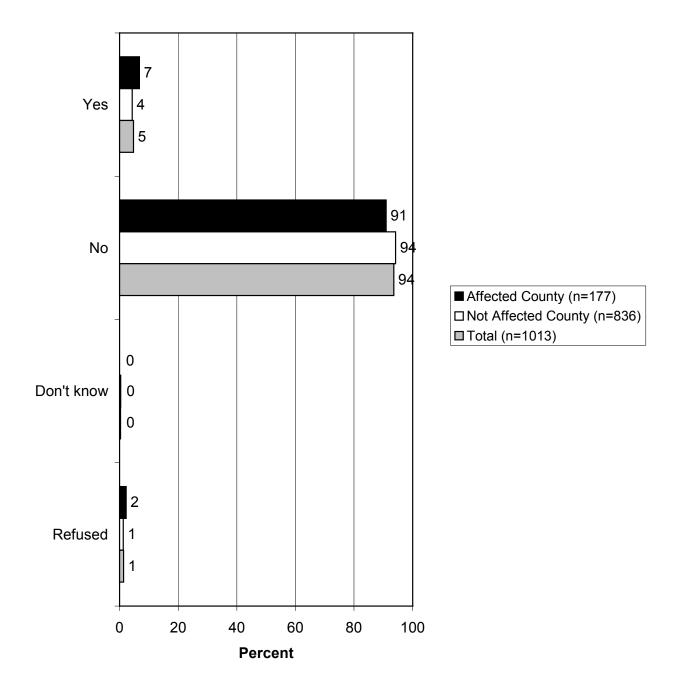
Q89. Are you a member of any agricultural or industrial organizations?



Q90. Are you a member of any sportsmen's or conservation organizations?

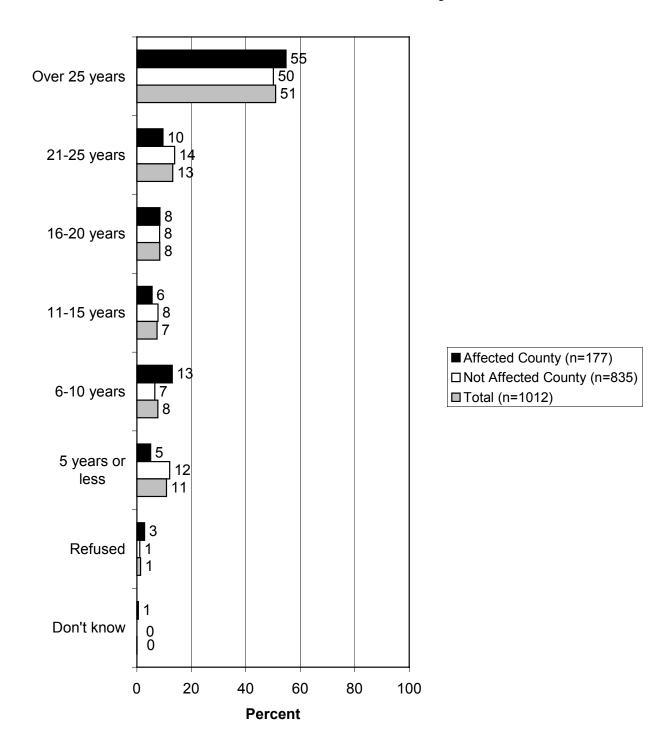


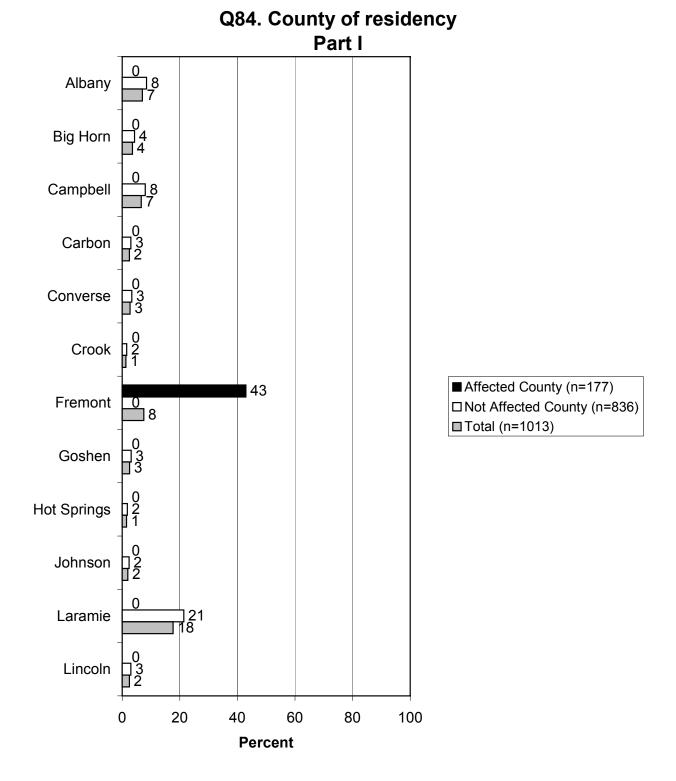
# Q91. Are you a member of any environmental organizations?

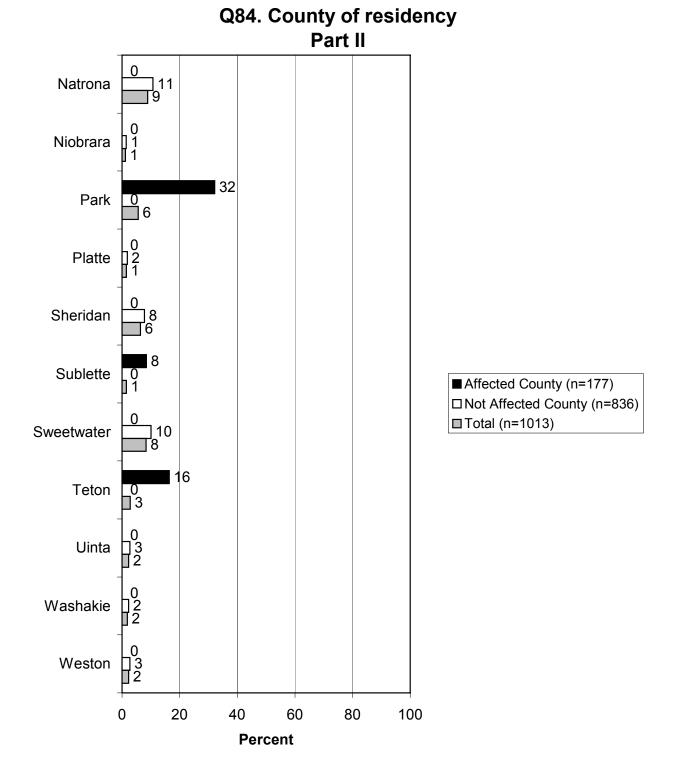


Finally, the survey included six questions concerning demographics. The mean age of respondents was 47 years. A slight majority (51%) of respondents overall had lived in Wyoming for more than 25 years. Most respondents who lived in counties not affected by wolves lived in a city with more than 25,000 people (29%) while respondents who lived in affected counties lived mostly on a farm, ranch or rural area (33%) or in a town with 5,001 to 25,000 people (30%). Respondents were closely divided between males (52%) and females (47%). Graphs depicting the distribution of respondents in Wyoming counties can be seen in the graph Q84. Graphs depicting the various occupation types of respondents can be seen in the graph Q93.

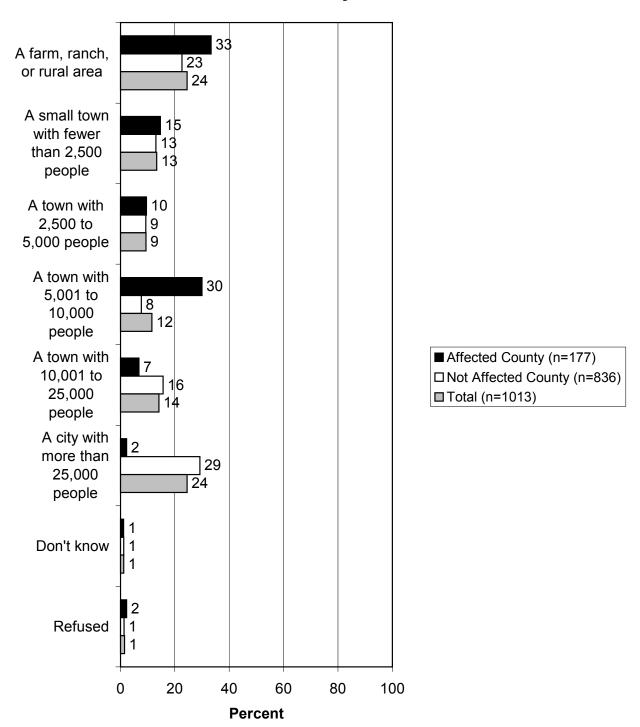
# Q83. Years of residency



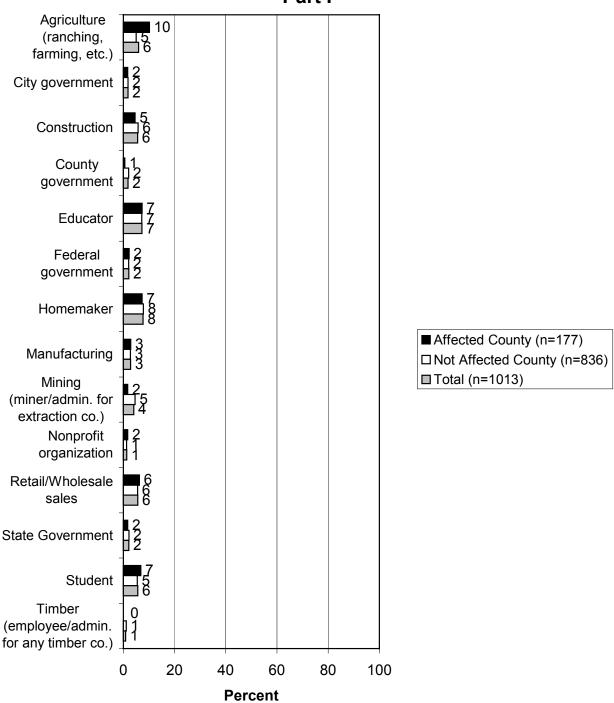




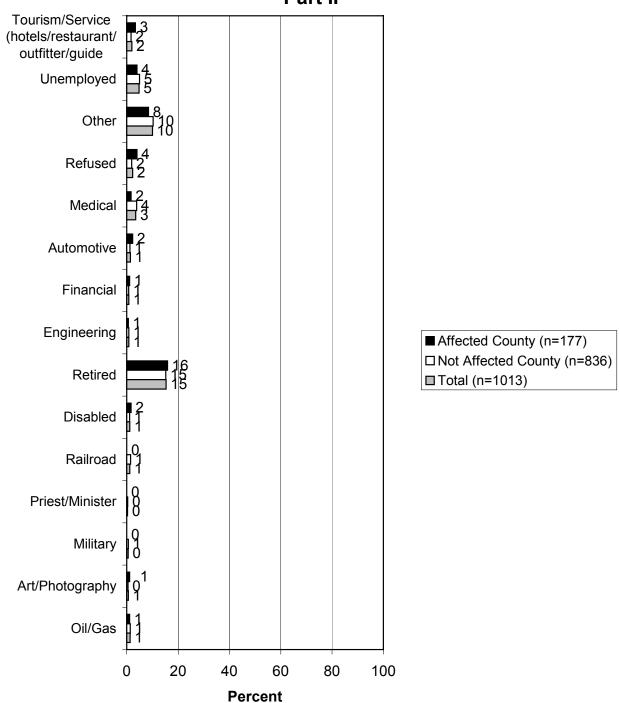
## **Q92. Residency location**



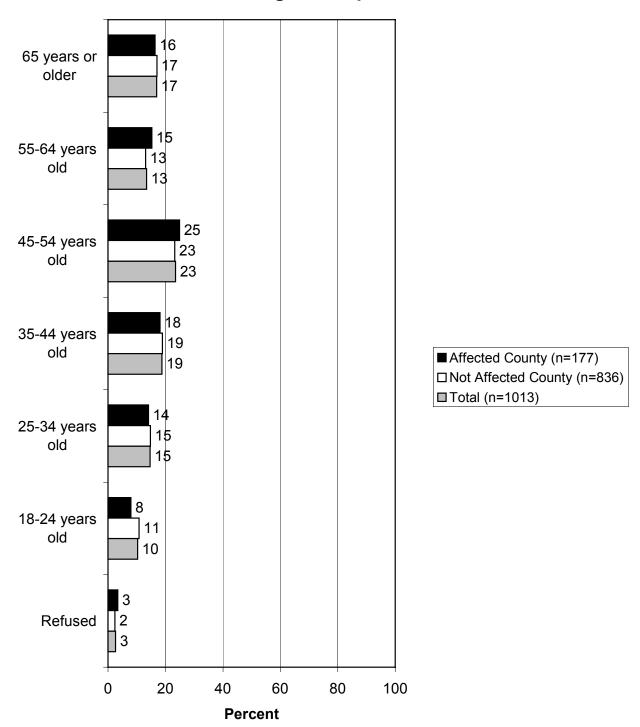
Q93. Occupation type Part I



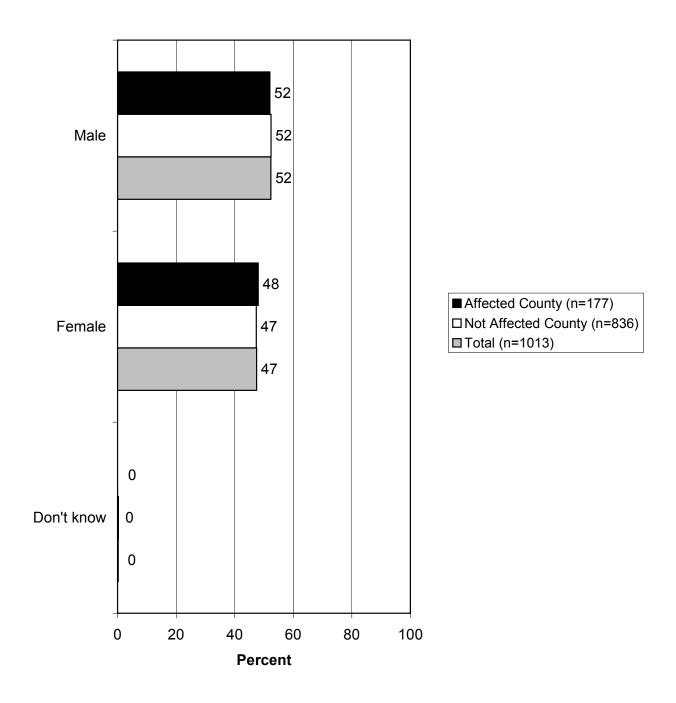
Q93. Occupation type Part II



Q95. Age of respondent



# Q97. Gender of respondent (not asked, but observed by interviewer)



## APPENDIX A - ADDITIONAL RESPONDENT COMMENTS

## **Additional Respondent Comments**

1% sales tax would help to fund wolf management.

A balanced management program will help everyone.

appreciate your efforts.

Concerned that too large a population of wolves will impact elk population.

Did not feel people in Wyoming were given an opportunity to voice objections or opinions.

Doesn't want state taxes raised to manage wolves.

Don't think wolves are harmful.

Education needs to be implemented because too many people are ignorant.

Farmers should help feed wild game - not kill wolves.

Federal government should provide full funding for the management of wolves in Wyoming - provide funding to WGFD.

Feels Federal government should be responsible for management of the wolves because they reintroduced them.

Feels that hunting interests are important.

Feels that wolves should be hunted as meat; also, they [wolves] clean up sick populations of species, should be allowed to hunt them.

Fence Yellowstone [National Park] to keep the wolves there.

Game and Fish Department is a well-managed organization, committed to the environment.

Get rid of the wolves.

Get good commissioners with a balanced viewpoint.

Good survey techniques, happy that WGFD wants to take over management of wolves.

I'm afraid the wolf should have never been reintroduced to Wyoming. I think their numbers will be uncontrolled.

I am concerned about children when they go to the camps at Yellowstone and Grand Teton especially where wolves run in packs.

believe that wolf reintroduction has gone well so far.

I believe the government should be working on helping people instead of worrying about wolves.

do support the keeping of non-hybrids species in the state.

I don't agree with the introduction of wolves. They will continue to cause problems, and they never went away.

don't think the survey will help the wolf, and once this is over, I think the wolf will be gone.

I don't think WGFD can manage the wolves. I don't have a high opinion of them [WGFD].

I don't totally hate wolves; we just need to do something about them. I want to be able to do something if they eat a calf.

feel positive about wolf reintroduction in the state.

feel the predation figures for the wildlife were incorrect.

I feel the wolf needs to be in this state.

I hate to see animals slaughtered by wolves.

I have confidence in WGFD.

I live on a small ranch and raise mules.

I strongly oppose having wolves in Wyoming.

I support wolf management as long as it is natural and with the wolves' interest in mind.

I think our government is too big, and they spend too much and interfere in people's lives too much.

### **Additional Respondent Comments**

I think the whole country should pay for wolf management. I also don't believe wildlife biologists.

think there should be a stamp to hunt the wolf as trophy game.

I think they should increase the pay to WGFD employees; currently, they are being paid starvation wages.

I think this survey is excellent, I've never seen one [wolf] but hope one day I will.

I wish people in the state were better informed about things instead of knee jerk reactions; the wolf is a prime example.

I would just as soon the Federal government did not get involved in the WGFD management plan; WGFD should have full responsibility.

I would love to see the wolves stay in this state and flourish.

I would support removal of wolves if they were not shot or killed.

If the Game and Fish Department wants more money, then stop cutting up the horns of confiscated animals!

Is worried about the elk feed grounds.

Keep everyone informed.

Like to see the wolves and encourage proactive action to manage them.

Likes the natural ways, does not support hunting of wolves.

Local control is best.

Main concern for a friend who has lost livestock to wolves. Feels unsafe to go camping.

Make the public more informed about wolf issues.

Need to regulate like the other species.

No dual classification; WGFD should manage wolves alone.

Only one agency should be in charge of this [wolf management].

People did not get to voice their opinions about the wolves being reintroduced back into Wyoming.

Problem wolves should be relocated, not destroyed!

Rancher killed the wolf by cyanide on his ranch.

Ranchers should be reimbursed 100% for any loss due to wolves.

Reintroducing wolves was a bad idea to begin with.

Send them all back East. They're the ones who want us to have them out here.

She is a native and feels that they can't be contained in the northwest; doesn't see why we need more wolves.

Should tax out-of-state licenses; too many people hunting. So I won't hunt. The people population is getting too big, too many RVs.

Shouldn't be any killing wolves on public land unless it's by hunting permit.

Support WGFD controls; wants it to be a state issue.

Survey is an excellent idea to get citizen opinion.

The Federal government should be responsible for their actions; the state should have full control of wolf management in Wyoming.

Shouldn't have imported wolves from Canada.

The Feds introduced them, and the Feds should pay for managing them.

The human race is displacing the living areas of animals, and, as a consequence, it is upsetting natural habitats.

The numbers of the wolves are not significant enough to make them predatory.

The state needs to do something towards control right now.

The WGFD should tell us why they even brought them back into the state and take more responsibility for them.

### **Additional Respondent Comments**

The WGFD should investigate wolves in Tensleep, WY. I have seen wolves kill calves on Twin Pine Ranch, Platte County and Laramie Peak.

The wolf is a beautiful critter. If reintroduction is going to be accomplished, a better containment strategy is needed.

The wolf should be left alone and let them balance themselves.

The wolf should never have been reintroduced to the state.

There are more than 250 wolves in Wyoming, and they are in Hot Springs county.

These are not native wolves (from Canada). People from other states are trying to tell Wyoming how to run their business.

They are a beautiful creature and serve a purpose. The wolf may be able to take care of a herd naturally.

They should stop worrying about tourism and start worrying about the economy in other ways.

I think wolves where here first, and people should leave them alone.

Treat wolves like game animals like bears.

We don't have any hope in government.

We want to preserve our present game. I didn't want to introduce an animal that will cut back on [game] population.

We watched a show at Jackson Hole, and it was mountain lions overlooking a feedlot, and no one was upset because hunting is allowed.

Well-balanced management program will benefit all.

WGFD is a very responsible agency.

WGFD is an above average organization. I appreciate their efforts.

WGFD should not have any authority to buy private land. WGFD would not be having problems if they did not buy up private land.

WGFD should pay for damage the animals do to residents, improve your management abilities. Too many wildlife.

When are they going to do something about grizzlies?

Wildlife is sacred. If we can't coexist with them, then there is something wrong with us.

Wish I had more information about this issue.

Wolf reintroduction was a bad idea.

Wolves should be allowed to repopulate Medicine Bow and the adjacent wilderness areas.

Wolves are needed to keep the ecosystem in balance. The more balance by nature the less management needed by man.

Wolves have lived for centuries with other species without interference from humans. They should be able to now.

Wolves should be regulated to Yellowstone; anywhere outside of that they should be shot.

Wolves should be taken off endangered species list, and people should be able to protect livestock, but don't hunt them to extinction.

Wolves should never have been brought back.

Wolves should not have been reintroduced. Population is too high; it's higher than 250.

Wolves were shoved down our throats.

I would like to see results of this survey when it's done (e.g. Internet, TV, paper).

Would not like for the Sierra Club to be involved - especially monetarily.

# **APPENDIX B - SURVEY INSTRUMENT**

2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey

1.	PRESS RETURN WHEN INTERVIEW BEGINS TIMER STARTS AFTER THIS SCREEN		START
2.	Time when interview began	TIME1	1:1-5
3.	Hello my name is, and I'm calling on behalf of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department to ask you some questions about wolves in Wyoming. It is possible that, soon, Wyoming's wolf population could be removed from protection under the Endangered Species Act. As part of that process, the state i working to develop a management plan for these animals. I am not selling anything, we are simply trying to collect public input that will help finalize Wyoming's draft Wolf Management Plan. Will you help us out by completing the survey?	S	
	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	CONPER	1:6-7
	1. Correct person, good time to do survey (GO TO QUEST 2. Bad time/schedule recall (CB - do not save) (GO TO 3. AM, NA, BZ (do not save) 4. TM 5. RF 6. NE 7. DS 8. BG 9. DL 10. Bad Number (missing digit, begins with zero, etc.)	ION 5) QUESTIC	ON 4)
	SKIP TO QUESTION 101		
4.	When would be a convenient time to call you back? Thank you for your time.  ENTER DAY AND TIME ON CALLSHEET (CB)  SKIP TO QUESTION 101	WHI	ENCALL

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 2
5.	First, I'd like to ask you some general questions regarding wolves in Wyoming.	
	Would you agree or disagree that the wolf population is a benefit to Wyoming? (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE	E) BENEFIT 1:8
	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 5) 2. Strongly agree (GO TO QUESTION 7) 3. Moderately agree (GO TO QUESTION 7) 4. Neither agree nor disagree 5. Moderately disagree 6. Strongly disagree 7. Don't know	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 9	
6.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR	
	PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC1
7.	What benefits do you think wolves bring to Wyoming? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	DNDT 1 0 10
	(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	BNFT 1:9-18
	1. Important part of ecology/food chain 2. Wolves historically present 3. Regulate big game populations 4. Wolf is a listed species under the Endangered Species 5. Displace other predators 6. Economic benefits from tourism/Attract tourists 7. Future opportunity to hunt/trap wolves 8. No Benefits 9. Don't Know 10. Other	Act
	IF (#7 = 0) GO TO #6 IF (#7 @ 10) GO TO #8	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 9	

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 3
8.	ENTER OTHER BENEFIT(S) WOLVES BRING TO WYOMING.	WHBNFTST 2:1-240
9.	Would you agree or disagree that the wolf population is to Wyoming? (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)	—— harmful HARMFUL 3:1
	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)  1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTICE 2. Strongly agree (GO TO QUESTION 11)  3. Moderately agree (GO TO QUESTION 11)  4. Neither agree nor disagree  5. Moderately disagree  6. Strongly disagree  7. Don't know	ON 9)
	SKIP TO QUESTION 13	===
10.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC2

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 4
11.	What harmful effects do you associate with wolves being in Wyoming? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	ARM 3:2-12
	1. Danger to livestock 2. Danger to humans 3. Danger to pets 4. Impact big game populations/Reduce hunting opportunities 5. Lead to more Federal control of land (Endangered Species) 6. Displace other predators 7. No harmful affects 8. Attract nonresident tourists 9. High management costs to state/WGFD 10. Don't know 11. Other	
	IF (#11 = 0) GO TO #10 IF (#11 @ 11) GO TO #12	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 13	
12.	ENTER OTHER HARMFUL EFFECT(S) ASSOCIATED WITH WOLVES IN WYOMING. WHHARMS	ST 4:1-240

Page 5

13. At the present time, biologists estimate there could be as many as 250 wolves living in Wyoming. Would you agree or disagree that this is an acceptable population level for wolves living in Wyoming?

(If asked: Wolf reproduction up to now has averaged about 22% per year. If this trend continues and no management controls are initiated, Wyoming could have 305 wolves in 2003 and 372 wolves in 2004.) (If asked, of the wolves in Wyoming, approximately 160 occupy territories within Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and approximately 90 occupy territories in other parts of Wyoming.) (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

POPLEVEL 5:1

(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)

1.	Invalid answer. Select another.	(GO	TO	QUESTION	13)
2.	Strongly agree				
3.	Moderately agree				
4.	Neither agree nor disagree				
5.	Moderately disagree				
6.	Strongly disagree				
7.	Don't know				

14. During 2001, in Wyoming, wolves are estimated to have killed 2048 elk, 523 Mule Deer, 44 Bison, 44 Moose, and 44 Antelope. Would you agree or disagree that this is an acceptable level of predation?

(If asked: 2048 = 3.8% of elk in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 523 Mule deer = 0.42% of mule deer in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 44 Bison = 7% of bison in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 44 Moose = 0.46% of moose in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and 44 Antelope = to between 0.05% and 0.07% of antelope in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.)

(READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

WOLFKILL 5:2

(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)

<ol> <li>Invalid answer. Select another.</li> <li>Strongly agree</li> <li>Moderately agree</li> <li>Neither agree nor disagree</li> <li>Moderately disagree</li> <li>Strongly disagree</li> </ol>	(GO TO QUESTION 14)
6. Strongly disagree 7. Don't know	

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey Page	6
15.	During the past five years, have you seen a wolf in Wyoming?  (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)  SEENWOLF 5	: 3
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 15) 2. Yes (GO TO QUESTION 17) 3. No 4. Don't Know/Uncertain	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 19	
16.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	23
17.	When you saw the wolf (wolves), what were YOU doing? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  WHATDO 5:4-3	L3
	1. Hunting 2. Fishing 3. Wildlife Watching (looking for wolves) 4. Wildlife Watching (looking for other species) 5. Camping 6. Hiking 7. Biking 8. Working 9. Don't Know 10. Other	
	IF (#17 = 0) GO TO #16 IF (#17 @ 10) GO TO #18	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 19	
18.	ENTER OTHER ACTIVITY.  WHATDOST 6:1-24	ŧΟ

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 7
19.	During the past five years, have you obtained information about Wyoming's wolves?  (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)  1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 19 2. Yes (GO TO QUESTION 21) 3. No 4. Don't know	GOTINF 7:1
	SKIP TO QUESTION 24	
20.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC4
21.	Where did you get that information? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  1. Friends/Relatives 2. Local Radio 3. Local Television 4. Local Newspaper 5. National News 6. Hunting Groups 7. Agriculture Groups 8. Elected Officials 9. Nat. Park Service 10. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 11. U.S. Forest Service 12. WGFD 13. Public meetings/presentations 14. Has not sought information on wolves 15. Don't Know 16. Other  IF (#21 = 0) GO TO #20	WHRGET 7:2-17
	IF (#21 @ 16) GO TO #22 SKIP TO QUESTION 24	

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey		Page 8
22.	ENTER OTHER SOURCE OF INFORMATION.	WHRGETST	8:1-240
		_	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 24	==	
23.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR		
	PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN		NOSPAC5
24.	Would you like more information about Wyoming's wolves? We are not sending out info, just trying to determine in which areas people would like to have more information. (If yes: Which ones) (READ LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	LIKII	NF 9:1-9
	1. Wolf biology, life cycle, and behavior 2. How to identify wolves and coyotes 3. What to do if you encounter a wolf 4. How wolves have affected Wyoming's game population 5. How wolves have affected livestock grazing in Wyoman and the federal government's wolf recovery plan 7. The state's wolf management plan 8. Other information 9. DNR: I'm not interested in any information		
	IF (#24 = 0) GO TO #23 IF (#24 @ 8) GO TO #25		
	SKIP TO QUESTION 26	==	
25.	ENTER OTHER INFORMATION.	IKINFST :	LO:1-240
		_	

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 9
26.	Do you oppose or support efforts to return the management responsibility for Wyoming's wolves to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department? (If asked, wolves in Wyoming are not endangered, however, they are protected under a specific portion of the Endangere Species Act. As such, Federal agencies are currently responsible for the management of wolves in Wyoming.) (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)	d WGFDRESP 11:1
	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	WGFDRESF II:I
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 26 2. Strongly support (GO TO QUESTION 31) 3. Moderately support (GO TO QUESTION 31) 4. Neither support nor oppose 5. Moderately oppose (GO TO QUESTION 28) 6. Strongly oppose (GO TO QUESTION 28) 7. Don't know	)
	SKIP TO QUESTION 33	
27.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR	NOSPAC6
	PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NODIFIED
28.	Why do you oppose efforts to return the management responsibility for wolves to the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	WHYOPP 11:2-8
	(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	
	1. Wolves' range includes other states 2. The USFWS has more experience with wolves 3. The USFWS has more/better resources to deal with wo 4. The WGFD has enough management responsibilities alr 5. Wolves should be the Federal government's problem 6. Don't know 7. Other	lf mgmt. eady
	IF (#28 = 0) GO TO #27 IF (#28 @ 7) GO TO #29	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 33	

2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 10
. ENTER OTHER REASON FOR OPPOSING EFFORTS TO RETURN MGMT. RESPONSIBILITY FOR WOLVES TO THE WGFC & WOLVES TO THE WGFC WGFC & WGFC WGFC WGFC WGFC WGFC WGFC WGFC WGFC	
SKIP TO QUESTION 33	
. YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC7
. Why do you support efforts to return the manager responsibility to the Wyoming Game and Fish Command the Wyoming Game and Fish Department? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	ement mission WHYSUP 13:1-7
1. Don't trust the Federal Government/USFV 2. The USFWS doesn't understand local issu 3. The WGFD has more experience with wolve 4. The WGFD has more/better resources to a 5. The WGFD is more responsive to WY resid 6. Don't know 7. Other	ues w/wolves res deal with wolf mgmt.
IF (#31 = 0) GO TO #30 IF (#31 @ 7) GO TO #32	
SKIP TO QUESTION 33  ==================================	TURN

Page 11

33. How confident are you in the WGFD's ability to successfully manage wolves in Wyoming once the Federal protections have been removed? (If asked, wolves in Wyoming are not endangered, however, they are protected under a specific portion of the Endangered Species Act. As such, Federal agencies are currently responsible for the management of wolves in Wyoming.) (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

CNFIDENT 15:1

1	CHECK	ONI.V	ONE	ANSWER)

1.	Invalid answer. Select another.	(GO	TO	QUESTION	33)
	Very confident				
3.	Somewhat confident				
4.	Neither confident or unconfident				
5.	Somewhat unconfident				
6.	Very unconfident				
7.	Don't know				

34. Now I would like to get your opinion on the issues the draft plan tries to address.

First, wolves are currently classified as a "Predatory Animal", statewide, under Wyoming statute. In addition to wolves, this legal designation includes coyotes, jack rabbits, porcupines, raccoons, red foxes, skunks, and stray cats. By being classified as a "Predator Animal", there are no state restrictions on the killing of wolves.

PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

INFO1

35. The WGF Commission is proposing to change the wolf's status from "Predatory Animal" to "Trophy Game" within Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park and the designated wilderness areas within the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests. Within the national parks, wolves are given full protection and no hunting is allowed. Under this plan, wolves could be hunted as "Trophy Game" in the 2.5 million acres of wilderness areas in Wyoming, and the "Predatory Animal" status would remain in effect in all other parts of the state.

(If asked: Mountain lions and black bears are trophy game species which are currently hunted in Wyoming.)
(If asked: These wilderness areas are not neighboring areas, a situation which may cause problems in the future.)

INFO2

PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

37.

38.

SKIP TO QUESTION 43

2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey

Page 12

36. Would you oppose or support creating a dual classification for wolves in Wyoming? (If asked to clarify: Changing the wolf's status from "Predatory Animal" to "Trophy Game" in Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park & the Bridger-Teton & Shoshone National Forests' wilderness areas & continue to have them classified as "Predatory Animals" in all other parts of WY.) (If asked: Fed protections related to the Endangered Species Act currently override WY's "Predatory Animal" classification.) (If asked: Before the wolf's Federal protections can be removed, the USFWS has indicated WY must show that it can legally limit the number of wolves killed so the population can remain above recovery level. This dual status may hinder efforts to remove Federal protections from Wyoming's wolves.)

DUALCLSS 15:2
(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)

(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	
1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 36 2. Strongly support (GO TO QUESTION 41) 3. Moderately support (GO TO QUESTION 41) 4. Neither support nor oppose 5. Moderately oppose (GO TO QUESTION 38) 6. Strongly oppose (GO TO QUESTION 38) 7. Don't Know	5)
SKIP TO QUESTION 43	
YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR	
PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC8
Why do you oppose creating a dual classification for wolves? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	OPDUAL 15:3-8
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	
1. It's too complicated/too hard to understand 2. Too hard to enforce 3. Would hinder removal of Federal Protections 4. Should be able to shoot wolves on sight 5. Don't know 6. Other	
IF (#38 = 0) GO TO #37 IF (#38 @ 6) GO TO #39	

\_\_\_\_\_\_

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 13
39.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR OPPOSING DUAL CLASSIFICATION.	PDUALST 16:1-240 —
		_ _
	SKIP TO QUESTION 43	:=
40.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC9
41.	Why do you support creating a dual classification for wolv (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	ves? SPDUAL 17:1-6
	1. Want opportunity to hunt wolves 2. Need regulation of wolves through hunting 3. USFWS won't remove protection 4. Gives WYGFD management responsibility 5. Don't know 6. Other	
	IF (#41 = 0) GO TO #40 IF (#41 @ 6) GO TO #42	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 43	=
42.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR SUPPORTING DUAL CLASSIFICATION.	PDUALST 18:1-240 —
		_

Page 14

43. Due to the wolf's legal classification as a "predatory animal", it is possible that the management responsibility for wolves could be shared by the WGFD and the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA). Under this option, the WGFD would be responsible for managing wolves in areas where there are designated as trophy game (i.e. wilderness areas in the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests.) The WDA would be responsible for managing wolves in the parts of Wyoming where they would be designated as predators (i.e. outside of national parks and the wilderness areas in the Bridger-Teton and Shoshone National Forests).

WDAINFO

PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

44. Do you think you would oppose or support a management plan where the WGFD would manage wolves in areas where they are designated as "trophy game" and the WDA would manage wolves in areas where they are designated as "predatory animals"? (If asked: this idea is still being discussed and has not been finalized, but this type of management would likely involve the WGFD managing wolves as trophy game within the designated wilderness areas of the Shoshone and Bridger-Teton National Forests, and the WDA managing wolves outside of national parks and wilderness areas in the Shoshone and Bridger-Teton National Forests.) (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

WDAPLAN 19:1

/ CITECIZ	ONTT 37		ANSWER'
CHECK	ONLY	ONE	ANSWER

2 3 4 5	Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 44) Strongly support (GO TO QUESTION 49) Moderately support (GO TO QUESTION 49) Neither support nor oppose Moderately oppose (GO TO QUESTION 46) Strongly oppose (GO TO QUESTION 46) Don't Know
SKIP TO	QUESTION 51

\_\_\_\_\_\_

45. YOU DID NOT USE

YOUR SPACE BAR

PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN

NOSPAC10

PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 15
46.	Why would you oppose a management plan where the WDA would manage wolves as predators outside of wilderness areas in Myoming? (DNR LIST CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	NW OPWDA 19:2-7
	1. WGFD should have full management responsibility 2. Would be too complicated 3. WGFD and WDA have different interests 4. Too many wolves would be killed 5. Don't know 6. Other   IF (#46 = 0) GO TO #45   IF (#46 @ 6) GO TO #47	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 51	=
47.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR OPPOSING WDA PLAN.	PWDAST 20:1-240
		_
	SKIP TO QUESTION 51	=
48.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR	NOSDAC11

50.

2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey

Page 16

49. Why would you support a management plan where the WDA would manage wolves as predators outside of wilderness areas in NW Wyoming? (DNR LIST CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	SPWI	A 21:1-4
1. Would represent ranchers wants and needs 2. Would provide a balance in mgmt. of wolves 3. Don't know 4. Other		
IF (#49 = 0) GO TO #48 IF (#49 @ 4) GO TO #50		
SKIP TO QUESTION 51	==	
ENTER OTHER REASON FOR SUPPORTING WDA PLAN.	SPWDAST	22:1-240

51. Currently, wolves occupy Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park. They can also be found in parts of Teton, Sublette, Fremont, and Park Counties. These areas contain large tracts of undeveloped public lands (national forests and wilderness areas) and adequate big game populations.

To minimize human/wolf conflicts, the WGFD is proposing to emphasize the management of wolves within the National Parks and designated wilderness areas in northwestern Wyoming. Under this plan, the WGFD would also work to discourage wolf expansion into the remaining parts of the state, where suitable habitat is less available and human/wolf conflicts would be more likely to occur.

TEXT1

PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Pag	ge 17
52.	Would you oppose or support a management plan where wolves we maintained within the National parks and designated wilderness areas in northwestern Wyoming, but were discouraged from expanding their ranges to other parts of the state? (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)		23:1
	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)		
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 52) 2. Strongly support (GO TO QUESTION 57) 3. Moderately support (GO TO QUESTION 57) 4. Neither support nor oppose 5. Moderately oppose (GO TO QUESTION 54) 6. Strongly oppose (GO TO QUESTION 54) 7. Don't know		
	SKIP TO QUESTION 59		
53.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOS	PAC12
54.	wolves to the national parks and designated wilderness areas in northwestern Wyoming? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	OPWIN 23	3:2-6
	(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)		
	<pre>1. Wolves should be able expand naturally 2. WGFD wouldn't be able to contain them/wouldn't work 3. It would cost too much 4. Don't know 5. Other</pre>		
	IF (#54 = 0) GO TO #53 IF (#54 @ 5) GO TO #55		
	SKIP TO QUESTION 59		

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 18
55.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR OPPOSING RESTRICTION OF WOLVES TO THE NAT. PARKS AND DESIGNATED AREAS OF NW WYOMING.	OPWINST 24:1-240
	SKIP TO QUESTION 59	:==
56.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC13
57.	Why would you support a management plan that would restrively solves to the national parks and designated wilderness are in northwestern Wyoming? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY) (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	ct reas SPWIN 25:1-4
	1. It would minimize human/wolf conflicts 2. Would give WGFD full management authority 3. Don't know 4. Other	
	IF (#57 = 0) GO TO #56 IF (#57 @ 4) GO TO #58	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 59	:==
58.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR SUPPORTING RESTRICTION OF WOLVES TO THE NAT. PARKS AND DESIGNATED AREAS OF NW WYOMING.	SPWINST 26:1-240

Page 19

59. A key aspect of this draft plan involves minimizing potential conflicts between humans and wolves. Wolves that occupy areas with livestock have been known to prey upon those animals. Some wolves that live in areas near people have been known to kill pets and ranch animals. And, wolves that occupy areas near humans are more prone to be killed by automobiles or poachers. For the benefit of both people and wolves, the WGFD would like to minimize the number of human/wolf conflicts. Now, I will ask you a series of questions about conflict resolution, and please tell me if you would support or oppose these options.

TEXT2

#### PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

60. If a wolf or group of wolves moved into an area with high human activity or an area containing livestock, but they were not causing any damage, would you oppose or support proactively removing that wolf or wolf pack before they became a problem? (If asked: Relocation of wolves is neither efficient nor cost effective when dealing with wolves and the WGFD has no plans to relocate problem wolves. Problem wolves would most likely be shot or trapped.) (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

REMOVE1 27:1

(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)
-------------------------

1.	Invalid answer. Select another.	(GO TO QUESTION 60)
2.	Strongly support	
3.	Moderately support	
4.	Neither support nor oppose	
5.	Moderately oppose	
6.	Strongly oppose	
7.	Don't know	

61. If an individual wolf or wolf pack killed either livestock or pets, would you oppose or support removing that wolf or wolf pack? (If asked: Relocation of wolves is neither efficient nor cost effective when dealing with wolves and the WGFD has no plans to relocate problem wolves. Problem wolves would most likely be shot or trapped.)

(READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

REMOVE2 27:2

#### (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)

1. Invalid answer. Select another. 2. Strongly support 3. Moderately support 4. Neither support nor oppose 5. Moderately oppose 6. Strongly oppose 7. Don't know	(GO TO QUESTION 61)
--	---------------------

Page 20

62. During the winter, some game animals such as elk, moose, and big horn sheep congregate on feedgrounds and natural winter ranges. When wolves frequent these areas, they could have an adverse impact on individual herds and herd management activities. Likewise, if enough wolves stay on these winter habitats and drive game either into areas of high human activity or onto private property, damage claims, automobile collisions, and disease transmission between game and livestock could become more common.

TEXT3

#### PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

63. During 2001, wolves in Wyoming were estimated to have consumed 2048 elk, 523 deer, 44 moose, 44 bison, and 44 antelope. Wolves may also be responsible for low cow:calf ratios in some elk and moose herds.

(If asked: 2048 = 3.8% of elk in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 523 Mule deer = 0.42% of mule deer in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 44 Bison = 7% of bison in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, 44 Moose = 0.46% of moose in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and 44 Antelope = to between 0.05% and 0.07% of antelope in Wyoming's portion of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.)

TEXT3B

PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

64. If wildlife biologists determined that an individual wolf pack or multiple wolf packs were causing a significant negative impact on game species while they are on natural winter ranges do you think you would oppose or support WGFD personnel removing those wolves? (If asked: Relocation of wolves is neither efficient or cost effective when dealing with wolves and the WGFD has no plans to relocate problem wolves. Problem wolves would most likely be shot or trapped.)
(READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

GAMEDAMG 27:3

### (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)

	2. 3. 4. 5.	Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 64) Strongly support (GO TO QUESTION 69) Moderately support (GO TO QUESTION 69) Neither support nor oppose Moderately oppose (GO TO QUESTION 66) Strongly oppose (GO TO QUESTION 66) Don't know
SKIP	TO	QUESTION 71

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 21
65.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC14
66.	Why would you oppose removing wolves that were having a significant negative impact on wildlife herds on winter ranges? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  1. They will just return 2. Too costly	OPDAMG 27:4-8
	3. Should let wolves prey on animals naturally 4. Don't know 5. Other  IF (#66 = 0) GO TO #65 IF (#66 @ 5) GO TO #67  SKIP TO QUESTION 71	====
67.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR OPPOSING REMOVING WOLVES THAT HAVE A NEG. IMPACT ON WILDLIFE HERDS ON WINTER RANGES.	OPDAMGST 28:1-240 
	SKIP TO QUESTION 71	====
68.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC15

ELKINFO

PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 22
69.	Why would you support removing wolves that were having a significant negative impact on wildlife herds on winter ranges? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	SPDAMG 29:1-4
	(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	
	1. To protect hunting opportunities 2. To protect other species' populations 3. Don't know 4. Other	
	IF (#69 = 0) GO TO #68 IF (#69 @ 4) GO TO #70	
	SKIP TO QUESTION 71	-==
70.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR SUPPORTING REMOVING WOLVES THAT HAVE A NEG. IMPACT ON WILDLIFE HERDS ON WINTER RANGES.	SPDAMGST 30:1-240
71.	During 2001, wolves were documented in 12 of the WGFD's feedgrounds, resulting in some elk being dispersed from specific feedgrounds and sometimes being killed by wolve	the

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page	23
72.	If wildlife biologists determined wolves were having a significant negative impact on the elk or moose utilizing feedgrounds, would you oppose or support removing the wolves causing the impact? (If asked, relocation of wolves is neither efficient or cost effective when dealing with wolves and the WGFD has no plans relocate problem wolves. Problem wolves would most likely be shot or trapped.) (If asked, During 2001, the WGFD documented 77 elk were killed by wolves on WGFD feedgrounds. 77 elk represent less than 1% elk that utilized the WGFD's feedgrounds. Feedground personned did not indicate if any feedground moose were killed by wolve (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)	ed of es.)	
	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	ELKMPACT 3	1:1
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 72) 2. Strongly support (GO TO QUESTION 77) 3. Moderately support (GO TO QUESTION 77) 4. Neither support nor oppose 5. Moderately oppose (GO TO QUESTION 74) 6. Strongly oppose (GO TO QUESTION 74) 7. Don't know		
	SKIP TO QUESTION 79		
<b>7</b> 2	WALL DED NOT LIGH		
73.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR		~-
	PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPA	C16
74.	Why would you oppose removing wolves that were having a significant negative impact on wildlife herds using feedgrounds? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)		
	(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	OPELK 31:	2-6
	1. They will just return 2. Too costly 3. Should let wolves prey on animals naturally 4. Don't know 5. Other		
	IF (#74 = 0) GO TO #73 IF (#74 @ 5) GO TO #75		

\_\_\_\_\_

SKIP TO QUESTION 79

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 24
75.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR OPPOSING REMOVING WOLVES THAT HAVE A NEG. IMPACT ON WILDLIFE HERDS USING FEEDGROUNDS.	OPELKST 32:1-240
	SKIP TO QUESTION 79	
76.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC17
77.	Why would you support removing wolves that were having a significant negative impact on wildlife herds using feedgrounds? (DNR LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)	SPELK 33:1-4
78.	ENTER OTHER REASON FOR SUPPORTING REMOVING WOLVES THAT HAVE A NEG. IMPACT ON WILDLIFE HERDS USING FEEDGROUNDS.	SPELKST 34:1-240

Page 25

79. Presently, almost all of WGFD's budget comes from either excise taxes on sporting goods or license fees from hunters and anglers with non-residents providing about 75% of license revenues. The WGFD does not receive any state tax revenue (i.e. state General Fund) and only receives a small amount of Federal funding. Given the growing volume and variety of wildlife issues in the state and the Department's current financial situation, this traditional funding mechanism will not be sufficient to pay for all wolf management efforts.

TEXT4

PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

80. Would you oppose or support the State of Wyoming providing General Fund revenues to help fund wolf management in Wyoming? (The General Fund refers to the state budget allocated by the state legislature which is used to pay for the majority of state services.) (READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

GENFUND 35:1

(CHECK	OMI.V	ONE	ANSWER	١

	1. Invalid answer. Select another.	(GO TO QUESTION 80)
	2. Strongly support	
	<ol> <li>Moderately support</li> </ol>	
	4. Neither support nor oppose	
	<ol> <li>Moderately oppose</li> </ol>	
	6. Strongly oppose	
	7. Don't know	

81. Would you oppose or support efforts by the WGFD to obtain money from either the Federal government or private groups to help fund wolf management in Wyoming?

(READ SCALE AS NECESSARY; PROMPT FOR DEGREE)

OTHMNY 35:2

(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)

<ol> <li>Invalid answer. Select another.</li> <li>Strongly support</li> <li>Moderately support</li> <li>Neither support nor oppose</li> <li>Moderately oppose</li> <li>Strongly oppose</li> </ol>	(GO TO QUESTION 81)
7. Don't know	

82. Now I just have a few final background questions to help us analyze the results.

DEMO

PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 26
83.	How many years have you lived in Wyoming? (ENTER ? FOR DON'T KNOW; 888 FOR REFUSED)      years  LOWEST VALUE = 1	YRSLIVE 35:3-5
84.	<pre>In what county do you live? (ENTER ? FOR DON'T KNOW; 88 FOR REFUSED)     LOWEST VALUE = 1 SKIP TO QUESTION 86</pre>	COUNTY 35:6-7
85.	YOU DID NOT USE YOUR SPACE BAR PRESS ENTER TO TRY AGAIN	NOSPAC18
86.	Did you hunt in Wyoming during the last 24 months? (If you which of the following types of game did you hunt in the 24 months in Wyoming) (READ LIST; CHECK IF YES)  (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  1. Big game (deer, elk, antelope, etc.) 2. Upland game birds (Grouse, turkey, pheasants) 3. Waterfowl (ducks, geese) 4. Small game (rabbits, squirrels, etc.) 5. Other 6. DNR: Did not hunt in last 24 months 7. DNR: Refused  IF (#86 = 0) GO TO #85 IF (#86 @ 5) GO TO #87  SKIP TO QUESTION 88	last HUNTER 35:8-14
87.	ENTER OTHER TYPE OF GAME HUNTED.	HUNTERST 36:1-240 

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 27
88.	During the past 12 months, did you take a SPECIAL INTEREST in wildlife, that is, closely observing, feeding, or trying to identify wildlife?  WATCH (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	WL 37:1
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 88)     2. Yes     3. No     4. Don't know     5. DNR: Refused	
89.	Are you a member of any agricultural or industrial organizations (If asked for examples; FFA, Wyoming Stockmen's Association, Wyoming Wool Growers Association, Timber Wives, etc.)  (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	RG 37:2
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 89) 2. Yes 3. No 4. Don't know 5. DNR: Refused	
90.	Are you a member of any sportsmen's or conservation organizations? (If asked for examples; Ducks Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, NRA, etc.)  SPORTO	RG 37:3
	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 90) 2. Yes 3. No 4. Don't know 5. DNR: Refused	

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Pag	e 28
91.	Are you a member of any environmental organizations (If asked for examples; Wyoming Outdoor Council, Wyoming Wildlife Federation, Sierra Club, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, etc.) (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	ENVORG	37:4
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 91) 2. Yes 3. No 4. Don't know 5. DNR: Refused		
92.	Please tell me which of the following best describes where you live: (READ LIST)  (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	ESDENCE	37:5
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 92) 2. A farm, ranch, or rural area 3. A small town with fewer than 2500 people 4. A town with 2500 to 5000 people 5. A town with 5001 to 10,000 people 6. A town with 10,001 to 25,000 people 7. A city with more than 25,000 people 8. DNR: Don't know 9. DNR: Refused		

LOWEST VALUE = 18

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 29
93.	Please tell me which of the following best describes the type of work you do: (READ LIST)  (CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	JOB 37:6-7
	1. Agriculture (ranching, farming, etc.) 2. City Government 3. Construction 4. County Government 5. Educator 6. Federal Government 7. Homemaker 8. Manufacturing 9. Mining (miner/admin. for any mineral extraction condition) 11. Retail/Wholesale sales 12. State Government 13. Student 14. Timber (employee/admin. for any timber/timber production) 15. Tourism/Service (hotels/restaurant/tour co./outfit) 16. Unemployed 17. Other (GO TO QUESTION 94) 18. DNR: Refused  SKIP TO QUESTION 95	ducts co. etc.) cter/guide etc)
94.	ENTER OTHER TYPE OF WORK.	JOBST 38:1-240 -
95.	And finally, may I ask your age? (ENTER 888 FOR REFUSED; ? FOR DON'T KNOW)	- AGE 39:1-3

	2002 Wyoming GFD Wolf Opinion Survey	Page 30
96.	That is the end of the questionnaire. Thank you very much for your time and input! I'd be glad to record any additional comments you may have at this time. (IF ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, RECORD HERE IN FIRST PERSON; 120 CH	
97.	OBSERVE AND RECORD RESPONDENT'S GENDER	GENDER 39:124
	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	
	1. Invalid answer. Select another. (GO TO QUESTION 9 2. Male 3. Female 4. Don't know	77)
98.	TIME INTERVIEW WAS COMPLETED	
	ENDT:	IME 39:125-129
99.	2	
		INT 39:130-132
100.	Enter the area code and telephone number of number dialed.	
	TELEPF	HON 39:133-142
	LOWEST VALUE = 1	
101.	SAVE OR ERASE INTERVIEW. DO NOT ERASE A COMPLETED INTERVIEW!	
101.	(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)	FINISH 39:143
	1. Save answers (GO TO QUESTION 103) 2. Erase answers 3. Review answers (GO TO QUESTION 3)	

Page 31

102. ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO ERASE THIS INTERVIEW? (ONLY ERASE IF CB, AM, NA or BZ)

MAKESURE 39:144

(CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER)

|\_\_ | 1. No, do not erase the answers (GO TO QUESTION 101) 2. Yes, erase this interview

103. Date call was made

INTVDAT 39:145-152

SAVE IF (#101 = 1)